0856-B-03 PREX 7.10: FBIS-EAS-91-114

Foreign
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ANNIVERSARY
1941 - 1991

Daily Report

East Asia

FBIS-EAS-91-114
Thursday
13 June 1991

JB 99-614408
JL: 26; 28-341

COMPLETED

Daily Report
East Asia

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NOTICE TO READERS: An * indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.

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IV

Japan

North Korea Names Condition for 4th Round Talks

OW1306133191 Tokyo KYODO in English 1304 GMT 13 Jun 91

[Text] Tokyo, June 13 KYODO—Pyongyang is demanding that Tokyo retract its request for information on a woman suspected of being abducted from Japan to tutor a self-confessed North Korean terrorist before it resumes normalization talks with Japan, an official of Japan's Social Democratic Party (SDP) said Thursday.

Hajime Fukada, director of the SDP's National Movement Bureau, led a party delegation to Pyongyang June 7-11.

He quoted Kim Yong-sun, secretary of the ruling Korean Workers Party, as saying that North Korea will not hold a fourth round of talks until Japan retracts its remarks and apologizes for them.

During the third round of the talks, held in Beijing in late May, Tokyo officially requested information about the Japanese woman, who allegedly instructed North Korean spy Kim Hyon-hui in the Japanese language and customs.

Japanese officials suspect the woman, a former nightclub hostess from Saitama Prefecture outside Tokyo, was abducted.

North Korea, after bitterly protesting Japan's demand, refused to set a date for the next round of normalization negotiations.

A week before the third round of the talks, Kim, who was convicted of the bombing of a Korean Air Boeing 707 that killed all 115 people on board, identified the Japanese woman as her instructor from photographs shown her by Japanese investigators.

Kim was pardoned by the South Korean Government after being sentenced to death for blowing up the plane in November 1987, posing as a Japanese tourist.

North Korea has denied any involvement in the bombing, calling it a South Korean fabrication.

A top official of Japan's Foreign Ministry, meanwhile, rejected the demand that Japan retract its inquiry.

The official, speaking to reporters on condition of anonymity, said, "the normalization talks aim to put the two nations into a normal relationship and North Korea should abide by the rules."

According to Fukada, Kim Yong-sun, who is charge of international affairs, also reiterated the North Korean stance that the United States must remove the nuclear weapons it allegedly has in South Korea.

North Korea has traditionally said it would not allow international inspection of its nuclear facilities until Washington removed its alleged nuclear warheads.

Fukada quoted Kim as indicating that Pyongyang is coming to a decision separately from its normalization talks with Tokyo on whether to accept international inspection.

Japan has continuously called for North Korea to accept inspection by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) during the two countries' normalization talks.

North Korea signed the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty in 1985, but has balked at signing an accord providing for international inspection until the U.S. removes its alleged nuclear arms from South Korea.

SDP Official Comments on DPRK Nuclear Stand

OW1306071691 Tokyo KYODO in English 0700 GMT 13 Jun 91

[Text] Tokyo, June 13 KYODO—North Korea is sticking to its position that the United States must remove the nuclear weapons it allegedly has in South Korea, the head of a mission from Japan's Social Democratic Party (SDP) said Thursday.

Hajime Fukada, director of the SDP's National Movement Bureau, said North Korea reiterated the demand while he was in Pyongyang June 7-11 for talks with Kim Yong-sun, secretary of the ruling Korean Workers Party.

North Korea has traditionally said it would not allow international inspection of its nuclear facilities until Washington removed the 1,000 nuclear warheads it allegedly has in South Korea, but a Pyongyang envoy said Tuesday in Vienna that his country will sign an accord allowing inspection without any preconditions.

However, the official North Korean media has continued to demand removal of the U.S. weapons in a series of statements this week.

Fukada quoted Kim as indicating that Pyongyang is coming to a decision separately from its normalization talks with Tokyo on whether to accept international inspection.

Japan has continuously called for North Korea to accept inspection by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) during the two countries' three rounds of normalization talks.

North Korea signed the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty in 1985, but has balked at signing an accord providing for international inspection until the U.S. removes the nuclear arms it allegedly has on its bases in South Korea.

On the normalization talks with Japan, Kim urged Tokyo to fully acknowledge that it was an aggressor during World War II, Fukada said.

Kim also said it would be intervention in Pyongyang's domestic affairs for the Japanese Government to call for promotion of inter- Korean dialogue.

Ministry Comments on USSR Reform Proposal

OW1306081291 Tokyo KYODO in English 0639 GMT 13 Jun 91

[Text] Tokyo, June 13 KYODO—Japanese Foreign Ministry officials said Thursday the latest proposal for Soviet economic reform drawn up by a Soviet-U.S. panel is "unrealistic."

The British newspaper FINANCIAL TIMES published details in its Thursday edition of the plan calling for Western aid of 20 billion to 35 billion dollars a year to the Soviet Union.

The paper said the proposal will be presented at the summit of the Group of Seven (G-7) industrial nations in London next month.

Japanese Foreign Ministry officials said the proposed Western aid was excessive and "unrealistic" for presentation at the summit.

Former Soviet Deputy Prime Minister Grigoriy Yavlinskiy, who headed the panel, reportedly sought Western aid of 50 billion dollars annually over a five-year period.

Western resistance to the initial proposal, however, prompted his team to cut the amount.

Analysts said the plan is likely to fuel intense debate among G-7 countries if presented at the summit. They noted that Japan's policy has been to withhold large-scale aid to Moscow while its territorial dispute over four Soviet-held islands off Hokkaido remains unsettled.

The plan reportedly calls for using Western aid to import food and unemployment assistance as a first step, followed by support for the ruble in the second phase. **The plan, as reported by the FINANCIAL TIMES, calls for: Phase One (lasting about two and a half years)**

—granting the Soviet Union associate membership in the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank
—shifting of the exchange rate of the ruble to facilitate convertibility
—further moves to decontrol prices
—small-scale privatization
—reduction in the Soviet budget deficit
—Union agreement between the Soviet Union and individual Soviet republics
—fulfilment of pledges to hold elections throughout the Soviet Union **Phase Two (three and a half years)**
—full convertibility of the ruble
—large-scale privatization
—full decontrol of prices
—using much of the aid to support the ruble.

Spokesman Remarks on USSR Yeltsin Election

OW1306084991 Tokyo KYODO in English 0832 GMT 13 Jun 91

[Text] Tokyo, June 13 KYODO—Japan's top government spokesman said Thursday he does not expect the probable election of Boris Yeltsin as Russian president to affect a four decades-old territorial dispute with the Soviet Union.

"The territorial matter is an issue for the two nations to (resolve) via diplomacy. Even if Yeltsin is elected it won't have an immediate impact on the territories," Chief Cabinet Secretary Misoji Sakamoto told a regularly scheduled news conference.

Yeltsin, who was reported leading the race in early returns, has said the dispute over four northern islands off Hokkaido should be put aside for the next generation of leaders to resolve.

Before Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev's visit to Japan in April, Yeltsin said Gorbachev could not make any deal on the islands without his approval.

The Russian Federation stretches from Europe to Asia, including the disputed islands, which were invaded by Red Army troops at the close of World War II.

Last year Yeltsin floated a five-step plan he said would deliver a peaceful resolution to the disagreement over a period of 20 years.

On Yeltsin's policy of promoting economic reforms, Sakamoto offered praise, saying he expects substantial progress should the popular chairman of the Russian Federation's legislature become president.

Wednesday's elections in the largest of the 15 Soviet republics are the first in the history of Russia. They are aimed at helping the republic achieve greater control over its domestic affairs.

MITI White Paper Urges Aid Expansion

OW1306104891 Tokyo KYODO in English 0933 GMT 13 Jun 91

[Text] Tokyo, June 13 KYODO—Japan should promote measures to encourage private fund flows to developing countries, while continuing efforts to expand Official Development Assistance (ODA), an annual government White Paper said Thursday.

The White Paper, compiled by the Ministry of International Trade and Industry [MITI], also said that in providing economic aid to developing nations, Japan should also pay due attention to preventing environmental disruption in recipient countries.

It said the world economy will face many difficulties in the 1990s due to such problems as the worldwide capital shortage, the dwindling import capacity in the United States, and the global environmental disruption.

The 1991 White Paper on Economic Cooperation said the global capital demand is expected to increase sharply in the 1990s, especially in the Soviet Union, East Europe, and the Persian Gulf nations. In the former East Germany alone, capital demand will amount to 334 billion dollars.

It emphasized that Japan should step up efforts to promote economic relations with Asian countries, on which Japan has been persistently giving priority of cooperation policy. In doing so, Japan must pay greater attention to environmental problems in the countries.

Environmental problems are expected to aggravate in Asian nations as a result of the fast development of their economies in recent years, it noted.

The United States, meanwhile, has been seeing a decline in its capacity to buy goods from developing countries amid a growing protectionist trend due to its swelling trade deficit, the White Paper said.

Therefore, it is necessary for Japan to step up imports, especially those of manufactured goods, from developing countries to help them earn foreign currencies, it said.

In addition to continued expansion of Official Development Assistance, the White Paper said, Japan should promote measures to increase private-sector monetary flows to developing countries. In this conjunction, the paper said that Japan should improve its trade insurance system, by taking such steps as easing rules on insurance for developing countries and more active setting up of credit lines.

In order to help developing nations increase exports of manufactured goods, Japan should also promote technological transfer to developing countries.

Touching on the accumulated external debt in developing countries, the report said delaying repayments can be considered a form of economic assistance if the debtor-country makes good use of the deferment.

It said, however, that simply retiring debts in highly indebted countries, as suggested by the United States and some European countries, should be considered only in very unusual cases.

In the paper, which is designed to moot policies for overseas economic assistance through the 1990s, MITI also said Japan should ensure the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade talks reaches a successful conclusion.

Bank Report Defends 'Credit Restraint' Policy

OW1306092691 Tokyo KYODO in English 0842 GMT 13 Jun 91

[Text] Tokyo, June 13 KYODO—A Bank of Japan report published Thursday defended the central bank's credit restraint policy and said its top priority is to fight inflationary pressure in Japan.

The report was published in the June issue of the central bank's monthly journal and said the tight money policy has had little adverse effect on the national economy, although it has caused the value of stocks and other assets to fall.

It said the five past increases in the official discount rate have brought about falls in stock prices and a slowdown in land price inflation, contributing to a deterioration in the performance of the banking, securities, and real estate industries.

The report said the credit restraints have not caused a slowdown in general economic demand, except for a decrease in housing investment.

The tight credit policy has had little impact on consumer spending and corporate fund-raising activities, the report said.

There is a growing sense of inequality in the public as a result of increased property values and it is essential to stabilize land prices, the report said.

It said continuing Japanese price rises have resulted more from rising labor and distribution costs than from increased crude oil and food costs.

Combined Earnings at Credit Associations Grow

OW1306090591 Tokyo KYODO in English 0839 GMT 13 Jun 91

[Text] Tokyo, June 13 KYODO—Combined earnings grew strongly in fiscal 1990 at Japanese credit associations, known as shinkin banks, in contrast with large falls in earnings at major commercial banks, the National Association of Shinkin Banks reported Thursday.

The association said its survey of 451 shinkin banks showed net operating incomes, which gauge profitability at their core businesses, rising 10.5 percent from a year earlier to 629.8 billion yen, for the first gain in two years.

During the fiscal year ended March 31, pretax profits increased 16.5 percent to 484.3 billion yen, while net profits jumped 10.9 percent to 334.8 billion yen.

Association officials said the healthy earnings performance reflected strong loan demand from borrowers faced with difficulties getting money from major banks.

Despite strong cash demand, major commercial banks refrained from providing high-risk loans during the period because of Bank for International Settlements (BIS) rules, they said.

The BIS rules require major Japanese banks with international operations to have capital equivalent to 8 percent of risk-weighted assets by the end of March 1993.

The balance of deposits at the nation's shinkin banks, excluding certificates of deposit (CDs), stood at 82,313.5 billion yen at the end of March, a 9.6 percent increase from the year-earlier level.

It was the first time the deposit balance has topped 80 trillion yen.

When CDs are included in overall deposits, those with free-moving interest rates accounted for 45.4 percent of the total, up 20.3 percentage points from a year ago.

Meanwhile, the balance of outstanding loans grew at a double- digit pace for the third consecutive year, rising 12.0 percent to a record 60,258.2 billion yen.

Asahi To Build Plant for LSI Production

OW1306104291 Tokyo KYODO in English 0930 GMT 13 Jun 91

[Text] Miyazaki, June 13 KYODO—Asahi Chemical Industry Co. said Thursday it will build its first plant for volume production of large-scale integrated circuits (LSIs) in Nobeoka, Miyazaki Prefecture, in a bid to boost sales of semiconductor products.

Construction will begin this month, with the start of operations planned for December 1993, said the company, which has been aggressively expanding into nonchemical fields such as biotechnology.

Total investment is estimated at some 50 billion yen.

The plant will have a total floor space of 4,500 square meters and turn out LSIs used in audio equipment and cellular phones and those designed for customer needs, it said.

Annual sales of these products are targeted at 50 billion yen for 1996. Asahi Chemical currently produces LSIs through its subsidiary in Atsugi, Kanagawa Prefecture, and earned some 11 billion yen in sales from LSIs in fiscal 1990.

North Korea

International Inspection of U.S. Bases Urged

SK1206004091 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1535 GMT 11 Jun 91

["International Inspection of U.S. Nuclear Bases in South Korea Must Be Made at the Same Time"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang June 11 (KCNA)—20 political parties and public organizations of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea including the Workers' Party of Korea, the Korean Social Democratic Party, the Chondoist Chongu Party and the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland on June 10 issued a joint statement, which says in part:

In order to remove the danger of nuclear war from the Korean peninsula and the rest of Asia, it is necessary, above all, to withdraw from South Korea the U.S. nuclear weapons, the source of nuclear war, and make the Korean peninsula a nuclear-free zone.

The DPRK Government has declared more than once that it has neither intention nor capacity to manufacture nuclear weapons, that it is ready to sign the nuclear safeguards accord any time according to the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty and that it does not oppose nuclear inspection.

The question lies in the removal of U.S. nuclear threat to our republic and Asia.

If the nuclear inspection should be made it must not be forced upon us alone with no nuclear weapons but the U.S. nuclear bases in South Korea must be opened to the public and an international inspection of them be made at the same time.

This is fair and is necessary not only for our country but also for the Asian countries.

Loud voices are ringing out from South Korea, Asia and the rest of the world, demanding that the United States open to the public the nuclear weapons which it has deployed in South Korea and agree to the simultaneous nuclear inspection in the North and the South of Korea, the statement stressed.

Kye Ung-tae Supports Stance on Nuclear Arms

SK1306122691 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0800 GMT 13 Jun 91

[Statement by Kye Ung-tae, member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers Party of Korea, "attesting to the justness of the DRPK's stance set forth in the joint statement issued by DPRK political parties and public organizations"; place and date not given]

[Text] In connection with the fact that U.S. nuclear weapons should be withdrawn from South Korea and thus the Korean peninsula should be turned into a nuclear-free zone, which is an urgent demand that brooks no further delay, the political parties and public organizations of our country issued a joint statement.

Today, the danger of nuclear war hovers over the Korean peninsula, and, still worse, it increases as days go by. This cannot but pose a great danger not only to our people but also to the entire Asian people.

In fact, the nuclear weapons currently deployed in South Korea are the main cause of danger not only to the existence of our people but also to the peace and security in Asia.

As is noted in the joint statement, if the United States had deployed nuclear weapons in South Korea to deter the Soviet Union from a downward thrust, there would be no grounds for it to refuse to withdraw its nuclear weapons from South Korea today when Soviet-U.S. relations have moved from confrontation to detente and, accordingly, tactical nuclear weapons deployed overseas are being reduced and abolished.

If the United States has deployed nuclear weapons in South Korea to protect it from the so-called danger of a southward invasion, it is still more unreasonable.

Our Republic, on more than one occasion, has declared that it has no intention to invade the South, that it does not possess nuclear weapons, and that it has neither the intention nor the capacity to make them.

If the United States had deployed its nuclear weapons in South Korea to oppose only us, it would not have deployed the large number of nuclear weapons totaling approximately 1,000 there. And, if the United States had deployed its nuclear weapons there because it distrusts us, there would be no reason for it to oppose the adoption of a North-South nonaggression declaration; the signing of a peace agreement between the DPRK and the United States; and the proposal to turn the Korean peninsula into a nuclear-free peace zone—which have been proposed by our Republic Government several times.

It is, in the long run, clear that the U.S. deployment of approximately 1,000 nuclear weapons in South Korea is aimed not only at dominating all of Korea but also at dominating Asia.

The United States has set up the policy of attaching importance to the Asian-Pacific region. Accordingly, if there takes place a situation which stands in the way of establishing its domination and of maintaining it, the

United States, under the stereotyped pretext of defending the U.S. interests and security, will threaten and gain supremacy over the Asian countries with nuclear weapons.

Recently, the United States babbled about our nonexistent nuclear facilities, it is precisely intended to cover up the danger of nuclear weapons deployed in South Korea and justify the nuclear policy it is pursuing in Asia with the Korean peninsula as the base.

The United States demands that we allow an international inspection of nuclear facilities according to the obligation under the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, while threatening us with nuclear weapons. This is shameless arbitrariness reminding us of a thief crying stop thief.

We are always ready to accept the international nuclear inspection, proceeding from our policy of denuclearization of the Korean peninsula. The question lies in the removal of the U.S. nuclear threat. Every state should sign the international treaty and carry out their obligation set forth in the treaty. This will be done for their countries' dignity and their own interest, but not for harm.

The unilateral and superpower arbitrariness of the United States in demanding that only we undergo nuclear inspection, while threatening us with nuclear weapons, can never be accepted by us who regard the dignity of the country and the nation as life and soul.

As for obligations stipulated in the nuclear nonproliferation treaty, it is the United States that refused strongly the mediation of the nuclear armament race set forth in the treaty. It is the United States that violates the obligation of the treaty of not posing threats to nor attacking with nuclear weapons, the countries which have no nuclear weapons, in accordance with the spirit of the obligation. This violation by the United States makes us not sign the nuclear safeguards accord.

If the United States truly has no intention of threatening our country and other Asian countries with nuclear weapons and intends to observe the nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty. It should stop threatening us with nuclear weapons, withdraw all its nuclear weapons from South Korea, and immediately respond to our proposal for turning the Korean peninsula into a nuclear-free zone.

In defiance of such a fact, these days, some other countries, including Japan, make a commotion over our nonnuclear facilities while memorializing what the United States says. This cannot be regarded as fair. It will not be helpful even to themselves.

If they are interested in denuclearization, they should stop babbling about us who do not have nuclear weapons. However, they should babble about the U.S. nuclear weapons actually deployed in South Korea.

As long as there are nuclear weapons on the Korean peninsula, not only our people but also our neighboring and all Asian countries cannot be safe.

The Asian countries will be unable to avoid a nuclear calamity if nuclear weapons deployed in South Korea are exploded against us or against any Asian country. This nuclear calamity will be larger than that of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

We think that all the Asian countries should keep a high vigilance against the U.S. nuclear weapons deployed in South Korea and positively try to make the United States withdraw them.

Proceeding from the vital interests of our nation and the noble sense of responsibility for the cause of peace in Asia and the world, our party will struggle resolutely to make the United States withdraw its troops and all the nuclear weapons from South Korea and turn the Korean peninsula into a nuclear-free zone and peace zone.

The United States should immediately withdraw all its nuclear weapons from South Korea, bearing in mind that it cannot avoid facing the curse and denunciation of the Asian people, including our people, and the peace-loving people of the world as long as its nuclear weapons remain in South Korea.

U.S. Nuclear Withdrawal From South Urged

SK1306045791 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1150 GMT 11 Jun 91

[Commentary by station commentator Kim Kyong-pok: "The United States Should Withdraw Its Nuclear Weapons From South Korea"]

[Text] As already reported, DPRK political parties and public organizations on 10 June issued a joint statement on the increasing nuclear threat to us by the United States.

The United States has deployed more than 1,000 nuclear weapons in South Korea in preparation for actual war and continues to pose a nuclear threat to us. The statement disclosed the criminal purpose and injustice to us of the unilateral demand for nuclear inspection. In addition, the statement insisted again that the United States immediately withdraw its troops and nuclear weapons from South Korea.

This is a clear expression of the peace-loving effort of the Government of our Republic to turn the Korean peninsula into a nuclear-free zone—free from the nuclear weapons—and to maintain peace in Asia and the world.

As we know, the United States has turned South Korea into the largest nuclear forward base in the Far East with the deployment of more than 1,000 nuclear weapons for actual war. It has staged the Team Spirit joint military exercise, which is a nuclear-test war, every year, thus gravely threatening peace and security in our Republic and Asia.

It is a well-known fact that the U.S. imperialists regard the existence of nuclear weapons on the Korean peninsula as an established fact [haek chonjaeul kijong sasilhwa hago] and have worked out a plan for nuclear war.

The high-ranking officials and military bosses of the United States have declared that they at any time would use nuclear weapons on the Korean peninsula. At the 22d Annual Security Council meeting held last November, the U.S. imperialists, along with the South Korean puppets, worked out a strategic plan for aerial countermeasures to our nonexistent nuclear facilities and to remove them in time of emergency.

On this basis, last April, the so-called puppet defense minister made a bombastic statement, which was virtually a declaration of war, that they would carry out a preemptive strike against our nuclear facilities.

The U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets have babbled about our nonexistent nuclear facilities. This is designed to draw the world's attention from the U.S. nuclear weapons deployed in South Korea and to cover up its policy of nuclear blackmail.

The purpose of the U.S. deployment of more than 1,000 nuclear weapons in South Korea is to dominate all of Korea and Asia and to threaten with nuclear weapons and bring under its control any Asian country where its interests or feelings are affected.

Under the situation in which nuclear weapons have been deployed in South Korea and the nuclear threat has grown continually, there is no guarantee anywhere that nuclear war could not break out. If nuclear war breaks out, the Korean peninsula and neighboring Asian countries will be unable to avoid immeasurable calamity. Because of this, the Government of the Republic has put forward an antinuclear and denuclearization policy and has consistently insisted on prohibiting development, production, and storage of nuclear weapons and abolishing them.

We have neither intention nor capacity to produce nuclear weapons. We are ready to sign the nuclear safeguard agreement at any time in accordance with the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty. In addition, we are not opposed to nuclear inspection. The question lies in the removal of the U.S. nuclear threat to our Republic and Asian countries.

The United States, however, from its position of power, has unilaterally forced us to accept nuclear inspection, which is an anachronistic way of thinking. This is very unreasonable.

If nuclear inspection should be made, the United States should not force us, who have no nuclear weapons, to do it alone. South Korea, where nuclear weapons have been deployed, should be opened to the public and international inspection should occur there at the same time. This is fair and just for the country.

It is senseless to take issue with countries that have no nuclear weapons by wielding nuclear weapons and posing a threat to others.

The fair opinions of the people at home and abroad demand the exposure of the nuclear weapons in South Korea and simultaneous inspection in the North and South of Korea. It is natural for us to do this.

The existence of nuclear weapons in South Korea constitutes a major threat to peace and security on the Korean peninsula and in Asian countries. Removing the danger of nuclear war from the Korean peninsula and Asian countries means, first, to withdraw the nuclear weapons from South Korea, which is a source for nuclear war, and then the Korean peninsula should be turned into a nuclear-free zone.

The United States should immediately and unconditionally withdraw its troops and nuclear weapons from South Korea. The withdrawal of the nuclear weapons from South Korea is a basic demand to remove the nuclear-war threat from the Asian region.

Our Republic's political parties and public organizations demand in their joint statement the withdrawal of the U.S. nuclear weapons from South Korea. As the only party directly receiving a nuclear threat, this is a just demand.

Today, the confrontation among powers has been ended in the international arena. In addition, as long as the Soviet Union and the United States do not regard each other as the enemy, there is no need for the United States to keep its nuclear weapons in South Korea.

If the United States does not want to threaten or attack our Republic and Asian countries with nuclear weapons, there is no reason not to withdraw its nuclear weapons from South Korea. If the United States continues to keep its nuclear weapons in South Korea and to pose a nuclear threat to us and Asian countries, the U.S. imperialists, as fanatic figures of the nuclear war and destroyers of peace and security in the world, will not be able to avoid facing the people's increased denunciation and refutation.

U.S. Urged To Commit to Nuclear Safeguards

SK1306105291 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1004 GMT 13 Jun 91

["The U.S. Must Commit Itself to Nuclear Safeguards to the DPRK"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang June 13 (KCNA)—It is the just and lawful right of a non-nuclear state that the Democratic People's Republic of Korea demands the United States to commit itself to nuclear safeguards. For the U.S. to accede to it is an unavoidable duty of a nuclear state according to the nuclear non- proliferation treaty.

NODONG SINMUN says this today in a commentary entitled "the U.S. must commit itself to nuclear safeguards to us."

In order to create circumstances and conditions favourable to the signing of the nuclear safeguards accord, we have repeatedly urged the United States to remove the nuclear threat against us and commit itself to nuclear safeguards, the news analyst says, and continues:

When the United States has deployed more than 1,000 pieces of nuclear weapons in South Korea and ceaselessly staged nuclear war exercises, posing nuclear threat upon us, our demand is too natural with a view to removing the danger of a nuclear war from the Korean peninsula and the Asian region and guaranteeing peace and security.

But the U.S. authorities have not committed itself to nuclear safeguards to us, while letting loose a spate of unreasonable sophism. This evokes disgust from the people.

When deploying nuclear weapons in South Korea first, the United States claimed that it was aimed at "deterring the Soviet Union from downward thrust". Today when the U.S. and the Soviet Union are reconciled and agreed on refraining from unleashing a nuclear war and furthermore, some nuclear missiles of both sides were dismantled, why doesn't the U.S. withdraw nuclear weapons from South Korea? It is a pitiful excuse that the U.S. claims that "safeguards declaration on non-use of nuclear weapons" is applicable to us. The socalled "safeguards declaration" is available to the "allies" which do worry over the U.S. nuclear weapons with uneasiness, not to us called a "hostile country."

The U.S. nuclear weapons in South Korea are also posing a big threat upon other Asian countries. If the U.S. has them to attack us only, it will not need such a large amount of nuclear weapons.

The U.S. authorities are balking at committing themselves to nuclear safeguards to us because they have a wild ambition to invade Korea and Asia.

If the United States belatedly commit itself to nuclear safeguards to us according to reason and take a step to remove nuclear threat, it may be welcomed by unbiased public opinions and praised as an affirmative contribution to ensuring peace on the Korean peninsula and improving the DPRK-U.S. relations.

Soviet Official Interviewed on Nuclear Inspection

SK1306103491 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0959 GMT 13 Jun 91

[Interview with Vladimir Tolstikov, first vice-chairman of Soviet Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee, by KCNA correspondent in Moscow on 11 June]

[Text] Moscow June 11 (KCNA)—As for the question of the nuclear inspection, simultaneous inspection of the North of Korea and the nuclear weapons of the United States in South Korea should be made.

Vladimir Tolstikov, first vice-chairman of the Soviet Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee, said this in an interview with a KCNA correspondent in Moscow on June 11 supporting the joint statement of the 20 political parties and public organisations of the DPRK released on June 10 in connection with the daily-increasing nuclear threat of the United States.

Pointing out that U.S. bourgeois propagandists and the stooges of the imperialists are alleging that the nuclear weapons deployed in South Korea pose no threat to the Soviet Union, the DPRK and other Asian countries, he said that such allegation is a scheme to smooth down the legitimate struggle of the Soviet, Korean and Asian peoples for peace and security and mislead the world public.

The enemies of the Korean people and occupationists cried that the DPRK declared it would not allow the inspection, he said, adding: This is a sheer lie and deception.

The U.S. troops and nuclear weapons, weapons of mass destruction, are deployed in South Korea, he noted. He demanded that they be withdrawn at an early date.

He continued:

The announcement of the joint statement is another important measure which increases the international prestige of the DPRK.

I am convinced that the progressive peoples of the world and governments, political parties and social organisations of Asian countries will fully support this joint statement.

Mongolian Foreign Minister Conveys Support

SK1206053991 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0503 GMT 12 Jun 91

[Text] Pyongyang June 12 (KCNA)—The Government of the Mongolian People's Republic will actively support the efforts of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to enter the United Nations as a full-fledged member nation and will closely cooperate with you with pleasure.

Ts. Gombosuren, minister of foreign relations of Mongolia, said this in a solidarity letter to Kim Yong-nam, minister of foreign affairs of the DPRK.

The measure of the DPRK to enter the United Nations this year is an important initiative which conforms to the interests of the Korean people by contributing to easing tensions on the Korean peninsula and promoting Korea's reunification, the letter said, and stressed:

I express my will to further develop the traditional relations between the Mongolian and Korean peoples in the future.

Italian Support for Reunification of Korea Cited

SK1306045491 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0427 GMT 13 Jun 91

[Text] Pyongyang June 13 (KCNA)—The Italian Government, through the vice-minister of foreign affairs, expressed its willingness to contribute to the reunification of Korea after the inter-parliamentary conference was held in Pyongyang, said Laura Cima, member of the Chamber of Deputies of Italy, in an article contributed to the June 5 issue of the magazine AVENIMENTI [as received].

It is high time this good intention was carried into practice, he stressed.

Laura Cima had participated in the 85th conference of the Interparliamentary Union held in Pyongyang from April 29 to May 4.

Pointing out that Italy had supported the stand of South Korea, he said: Now, we should reconsider this.

Asking the reason why the Korean people who have strong national characteristics and cultural tradition have failed to remove the barrier of division till now, he stressed that the United States is laying hurdles in the way of the reunification of Korea.

The United States has opposed North Korea's proposal for Korea's single membership in the United Nations and supported the splittist "separate entry into the U.N." of South Korea, he said, adding: The U.S. is opposed to the proposal for denuclearising the Korean peninsula, too.

Daily on South's Campaign Against Dissidents

SK0806060291 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0502 GMT 8 Jun 91

[Text] Pyongyang June 8 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today denounces the No Tae-u ruling group for publishing a faked "case of the organisation of activists for national liberation" on June 5.

The news analyst says:

The South Korean authorities alleged that the organisation formed with one-time leaders of the student council of Seoul National University as the core sought to implement the "line of national liberation and people's democratic revolution" on the basis of the chuche idea, overthrow the "liberal democratic system" and "build a socialist state."

The "case" is a premeditated anti-communist plot framed by the No Tae-u ruling group, now driven to a tight corner by the antidictatorship struggle of the students and people, to totally crush the student movement.

The South Korean authorities' attempt to crack down on the student movement, attaching to it the "socialist" and "leftist and pro-communist" labels is a despicable crime which can convince no one.

If the members of the organisation studied the chuche idea and tried to find a true way of life in it as alleged by the authorities, it cannot be criminalised either from a humanitarian point of view or from a point of view of freedom of the study of ideas. It cannot be a target of suppression as it is aimed at having a correct understanding of the North, the necessity of which was recognised by the authorities themselves.

The "case of the organisation of activists for national liberation" fabricated and published by the authorities is a product of their criminal plot to justify their suppression as intended to "wipe out the leftist and pro-communist forces" and find an excuse for totally stifling the student movement.

It is also a declaration of a fascist war against all the patriotic democratic forces of South Korea.

While publishing this false case, the authorities took Rev. Mun Ik-hwan back to prison and launched a wholesale roundup campaign against the hardcore elements of the dissident and democratic organisations.

It is for the purpose of bridging over the worst crisis that the South Korean authorities fabricated another false case.

SKNDF Spokesman Urges Resistance in South

SK1206050791 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0418 GMT 12 Jun 91

[Text] Pyongyang June 12 (KCNA)—The spokesman for the South Korean National Democratic Front [SKNDF] (Hanminjon) made public a commentary on June 8 calling upon the people to turn out in a democratic resistance, holding aloft the torch of anti-U.S., anti-fascist struggle, carrying forward the noble spirit of the resistance of June, 1987, according to radio Voice of National Salvation from Seoul.

Pointng out that the No Tae-u group, driven into a crisis of destruction by the fierce anti-fascist struggle of the people, is trying to break through the present phase by means of a harsher crackdown on the hardcore members of the movement and dissident organizations, the commentary says:

This was made clear when the No Tae-u fascist group reimprisoned the Rev. Mun Ik-hwan in his seventies, a patriotic figure who led the All-People Measure Council with a strong will and ardour.

Such reckless suppression on the part of the No Tae-u fascist group is an open and shameless challenge to the people who are demanding the termination of the "security-oriented rule" and the democratisation of society. This lashes again all the people into fury.

The immediate task of the people is to destroy the fascist rule and establish a democratic government. This is an immovable demand cried by our people on the streets of the June resistance. Accordingly, this has been agglutinated and matured as the aspiration of the 40 million people through the April 19 uprising, the May Kwangju popular uprising and the June people's resistance.

The commentary calls upon all the democratic patriotic forces to assemble again at the square of June and smash the "security-oriented rule" through an all-people struggle.

No Tae-u's Visit to Police Hospital Criticized

SK1106070491 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0546 GMT 11 Jun 91

["'Sympathy'" Farce by No Tae-u"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang June 11 (KCNA)—No Tae-u visited the police hospital and "sympathized" with those riot policemen who were wounded while suppressing demonstrations.

No Tae-u's "sympathy" with the murderers is an insult to the martyrs and the bereaved families and a challenge to the entire South Korean people who aspire after independence, democracy and reunification, say NODONG SINMUN today.

The news analyst points out:

His "sympathy" farce shows that he is the very one who created the murderous political situation in South Korea and the chieftain of human butchery.

He, who had slaughtered thousands of citizens in Kwangju "sympathized" with the murderers, committing one crime after another.

No Tae-u's sinister purpose in visiting those policemen who faced a punishment while taking the lead in the suppression of peaceful demonstrations as henchmen of the dictator was to give a shot in the arm to his lackeys and drive them out to a more violent repressive operation.

DLP 'Clan', 'Election Fraud' in South Reported

SK1306054291 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0449 GMT 13 Jun 91

[Text] Pyongyang June 13 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today says that No Tae-u and his clan of the "Democratic Liberal Party" [DLP] are resorting to "election" fraud more viciously with the day of "elections for large city and provincial councils" in the offing.

Recalling that the "DLP", backed by the fascist power, is carrying on the "election" campaign with a high hand, putting pressure on independent candidates to "give up" candidacy, and is resorting to all sorts of irregularities to rig "returns" of its members, the news analyst says:

The No Tae-u ruling group has increased the number of the members of the observation groups to prevent illegal elections" from 3,000 to 6,000, formed "police teams controlling election offences" consisting of 5,800 men and decided to hurl 100,000 control men to the scenes of the canvassing of candidates. But this is nothing but a step to back the arbitrariness and "election" rigging of the "DLP" clan at the point of the bayonet under the pretext of preventing "election" fraud.

The reality of South Korea shows that the "fair election" advertized by the authorities is an empty talk which is not worth a farthing and they only seek "elections" by the bayonet, power and fraud.

A fair election can be held in South Korea only when No Tae-u is removed, the fascist murderer who has converted South Korea into a terror-ridden area under the "security-oriented political situation" and the murderous political situation, cruelly murdered righteous-minded students and people calling for independence, democracy and reunification and frequently imposed bloodshed upon them.

South, U.S. Action Near Demarcation Line Noted

SK1206044291 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0409 GMT 12 Jun 91

[Text] Pyongyang June 12 (KCNA)—The South Korean puppets deployed large-calibre guns of various kinds in Chongja-ri, Paju County, on June 7 and fired more than 30 shells at random toward Panjong-ri, Yonchon County, near the Military Demarcation Line, according to military sources.

On June 10, 10 heavy tanks moved to Changjwa-ri, Paju County, and fired scores of shells in our sight.

Earlier, on June 9, trucks pulling more than ten 105 mm guns ran into the area of Yulli-ri near the Military Demarcation Line and the guns were deployed in the fire positions.

On June 7 and 10, heavily-armed bandits took positions in the areas of Pangmok-ri, Paju County, and Chokgo-ri, Yonchon County, and fired some 2,000 bullets by large-calibre machine guns near the Military Demarcation Line.

On June 10, formations of military helicopters of the puppet army frantically staged take-off and landing exercises in the skies above Myongho-ri and Komsan-ri, Kosong County, South Korean Kangwon Province, near the Military Demarcation Line, aiming at locating targets in the frontline areas and infiltrating into the depths of our side.

The South Korean puppets' unending play with fire shows that they are scheming in a premeditated way to aggravate the situation along the Military Demarcation Line.

NODONG SINMUN Views 'New World Order'

SK1006050691 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0442 GMT 10 Jun 91

[Text] Pyongyang June 10 (KCNA)—The "new world order" of the U.S. imperialists is an order of aggression and war which opposes the people's cause of independence, the cause of socialism and threatens peace and security of the world, says NODONG SINMUN on June 9 in a by-lined article entitled "'New World Order' of the United States Seeking World Supremacy".

Recalling the claim of the U.S. ruling quarters that a "new world order" must be established under the situation in which "the United States remains the only superpower" in the world, the paper says:

To establish its domination of the world is the objective of the "new world order".

The U.S. imperialists are stretching out their crooked hands deeply to all continents and regions and resorting to more vicious moves of aggression and intervention, subversion and disintegration, in order to make a world moving under their baton, a world in which they will have everything their way.

Availing itself of the wreck of the balance of forces in the international relations, the United States schemes to convert the bipolar world into one world under its influence, that is, a "new world" under its domination in which there would be no socialism and only capitalism would remain.

The main means of establishing a "new world order" pursued by the United States is strength.

To this end, the U.S. is working zealously to secure nuclear upperhand and strategical superiority, first of all.

Behind the curtain of disarmament and detente, the U.S. is taking measures to further develop nuclear production capacity and pressing ahead with the "Star Wars" program.

The U.S. is strengthening military alliances to use the potentials of the allies in establishing a "new world order."

It intends to keep the NATO, not disbanding it after the dissolution of the military organisation of the Warsaw Pact in Europe.

Moreover it is increasing the NATO's strength.

It is heading for further tightening the U.S.-Japan military alliance in the Asia-Pacific region.

In order to establish a "new world order", the United States plans to increase the combat capabilities of its forces and prolong their presence in the major strategic and resource regions.

It seeks continued presence of its forces in Europe and the Asia-Pacific region.

Claiming that "the 21st century will be a U.S. century," the United States intends to bring under its domination the Asia-Pacific region with great economic potentials and, for this purpose, it is strengthening South Korea, a military vantage, into the biggest nuclear forward base in the Far East and the foremost attack base for executing its anti-socialist strategy.

The U.S. imperialists plan to push forward their aggressive Asian-Pacific strategy by unleashing a new war on the Korean peninsula.

But, this is a foolish dream.

NODONG SINMUN Condemns U.S. in South

SK1206102691 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1013 GMT 12 Jun 91

["Wolves in Human Skin"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang June 12 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today condemns the U.S. imperialist aggressors present in South Korea for committing hair-raising brutalities in different places.

Recalling that the U.S. imperialist aggressor beasts stabbed an inhabitant protesting against their trifling with a woman in Uijongbu, Kyonggi Province, on June 7 and committed murder, robbery and rape, a news analyst of the paper says:

Such outrages are criminal acts which can be committed only by the U.S. imperialist wolves, a group of beasts in human skin.

It is the U.S. imperialist aggressors who have established the unprecedented vicious colonial military fascist rule in South Korea and suppressed the people, insulting them as "mouse" and "monkeys" and regarding murder as a play.

It is unthinkable apart from the disgraceful flunkeyism of the No Tae-u ruling group that outrages of the U.S. imperialist aggressors are not ceased but rather prevalent in South Korea. The South Korean authorities transfer the criminals to the U.S. Army side, far from severely punishing them.

The aggressors are all the more rampant as such flunkeyists, who serve the aggressor troops while ruthlessly suppressing the righteous struggle of the South Korean students and people, stay in power.

The South Korean people will never pardon the aggressors and the traitors, but revenge upon them a hundred and thousand fold.

Kim Chong-il Receives Gift From PRC Delegates

SK1106110591 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1053 GMT 11 Jun 91

[Text] Pyongyang June 11 (KCNA)—The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il today received a gift from the delegation of the National People's Congress [NPC] of the People's Republic of China on a visit to our country.

It was handed to Yang Hyong-sop, chairman of the Supreme People's Assembly, by head of the delegation Peng Chong, vice-chairman and secretary-general of the standing committee of the NPC of China.

PRC Delegation Returns Home After Visit

SK1206112191 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1105 GMT 12 Jun 91

[Text] Pyongyang June 12 (KCNA)—The delegation of the National People's Congress of China headed by Peng Chong, vice-chairman and secretary-general of its standing committee, left for home today after a 9-day Korean visit.

It was seen off at Pyongyang Railway Station by Vice-president Yi Chong-ok, chairman of the Supreme People's Assembly Yang Hyong-sop and Chinese Ambassador to Korea Zheng Yi.

While staying in Korea the delegation visited Mangyongdae, the Tower of Chuche Idea, the Grand People's Study House, the West Sea Barrage and other places and saw the concrete wall built in the area South of the Military Demarcation Line by the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets.

Agricultural Accord Signed With Soviet Academy

SK1206152191 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1512 GMT 12 Jun 91

[Text] Pyongyang June 12 (KCNA)—The 1991-1993 plan of scientific cooperation between the Academy of Agricultural Sciences of the DPRK and the V.I. Lenin All-Union Academy of Agricultural Sciences of the Soviet Union was signed in Pyongyang on June 12.

It was signed on our side by Vice-president of the Academy of Agricultural Sciences Choe Hui-chun and on the opposite side by head of the delegation of the Soviet Academy of Agricultural Sciences I.P. Makarov.

Romanian Foreign Ministry Delegation Arrives

SK1206044791 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0417 GMT 12 Jun 91

[Text] Pyongyang June 12 (KCNA)—A delegation of the Foreign Ministry of Romania headed by Gheorghe Tinca, deputy secretary of state for the ministry, arrived in Pyongyang on June 11.

It was met at the airport by Yi In-kyu, vice-minister of foreign affairs, and Ioan Aureliu Lazar, Romanian ambassador to Korea.

Women's Group Presents Petition on Japan Talks

SK1306044091 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0421 GMT 13 Jun 91

[Text] Pyongyang June 13 (KCNA)—The Society of One, an organisation of Japanese and Korean women in Gifu Prefecture, Japan, submitted to the government on June 3 a request for the promotion of the talks for the normalisation of DPRK-Japan diplomatic relations.

The promotion of the talks for the normalisation of Japan-DPRK diplomatic relations based on a joint declaration of the Workers' Party of Korea, the Liberal Democratic Party and the Social Democratic Party of Japan draws the attention of people within and outside Japan, the request noted, adding: The members of the Society of One hope that diplomatic relations between the two countries will be normalised and relations of good neighbourhood be established at an early date.

The attitude of the Japanese side at the third round of talks held in Beijing last May lacked sincere reflection on its past. The Japanese side repeatedly raised problems which could hardly be acceptable to the DPRK side, the request said.

The request urged the Japanese Government to study the proposals of the DPRK and strive for an early normalisation of diplomatic relations from a stand of reflecting on the past.

Kye Ung-tae Meets With Tanzanian Delegation

SK1306111691 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1038 GMT 13 Jun 91

[Text] Pyongyang June 13 (KCNA)—Talks between the delegations of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] and the Revolutionary Party of Tanzania [RPT] were held in Pyongyang on June 12 and 13.

Present at the talks on the Korean side were Kye Ung-tae, member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the WPK Central Committee and other officials concerned, and on the opposite side were the members of the delegation headed by secretary general of the RPT Horace Kolimba.

At the talks the two sides exchanged views on the question of further developing the friendly and cooperative relations between the two parties and the two peoples in keeping with the requirement of the new situation, the question of strengthening south-south cooperation and other matters of mutual concern.

The talks proceeded in a friendly atmosphere.

Government Economic Delegates Leave for Nigeria

SK1306110791 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1042 GMT 13 Jun 91

[Text] Pyongyang June 13 (KCNA)—A DPRK Government economic delegation headed by Minister of External Economic Affairs Chong Song-nam left here today to visit Nigeria.

It was seen off at the airport by Vie-minister of External Economic Affairs Chon Il-chun and Nigerian Ambassador to Korea Olugbenga Ayodeji Ashiru.

Anniversary of Kim-Il-song's Rice Transplanting

SK0806114491 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0959 GMT 8 Jun 91

[Text] Pyongyang June 8 (KCNA)—44 years have passed since the great leader President Kim Il-song did the first transplantation of rice seedlings on the Mirim Plain after liberation.

President Kim Il-song enforced the agrarian reform, the age-long desire of our peasants, as the first policy of democratic reform after liberation and visited the Mirim Plain on the outskirts of Pyongyang to transplant rice seedlings together with peasants on June 7, 1947.

The great leader stepped [word indistinct] rice paddy field, waving to the thunderous cheers of peasants, and transplanted one rice seedling after another with much care, saying that it was his first rice-transplanting after he returned home. The Mirim Plain is also associated with the immortal revolutionary history of our party.

In the year following his first rice-transplanting, the dear leader comrade Kim Chong-il visited there together with Comrade Kim Chong-sok, an indomitable communist revolutionary fighter, and greatly encouraged farmers in a drive for a large yield, helping them in rice-transplanting.

A meeting was held on the spot Friday to celebrate the significant day.

Yi Yong-kyon, president of the Academy of Agricultural Sciences, in his report said that under the wise leadership of the great leader and the party the industrialization and modernization of agriculture have been stepped up in our country and an epoch-making turn has taken place in agricultural development.

All agricultural working people, scientists and technicians should carry out the tasks set forth in the theses on the socialist rural question in our country as early as possible with the high-consciousness of being the masters of the rural technical revolution.

Kim Il-song Speech Translated in Other Languages

SK0806151291 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1459 GMT 8 Jun 91

[Text] Pyongyang June 8 (KCNA)—"For a Free and Peaceful New World", the speech of the great leader President Kim Il-song at the opening session of the 85th

Inter-Parliamentary Conference on April 29, 1991, was recently published by the foreign language press group in Russian, Chinese, Japanese, English, French, Spanish, Arabic and German.

President Kim Il-song in the work said that the old age of domination and subjugation that has lasted for thousands of years has come to an end, and a new age is being ushered in, the new age when all countries and all nations shape their destiny independently, adding that mankind is now faced with a common task of giving stronger impetus to the historical current and of building a free and peaceful new world.

The work notes that in order to build a new world aspired to by mankind, it is necessary to abolish the unequal old international order in all fields of politics, the economy and culture and establish an equitable new international order.

Defined in the work are the matter for all countries and nations to maintain independence, oppose policy of strength and develop a powerful joint international struggle to prevent aggression and war for safeguarding peace, a common desire of mankind, the matter of realising disarmament and the abolition of nuclear weapons and other types of mass-destruction weaons, the matter of developing the solidarity and cooperation among the world people in the common cause for building a new world and the matter of the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea.

Ho Chong-sok Letter to Kim Chong-il Reported

SK1106112891 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1042 GMT 11 Jun 91

[Text] Pyongyang June 11 (KCNA)—The late Comrade Ho Chong-sok, member of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, sent a letter to the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il before her death at the age of 82 on June 5.

The letter said among other things:

The past days during which I worked under two leaders, the greatest of great persons, the great leader President Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, as a member of the most authoritative party founded by the great leader and guided by the dear leader were most glorious and happiest days.

Having experienced turns and twists as a woman intellectual in the past days, I could grow up to be an official [words indistinct].

Today you, dear leader, bestow warmer loving care than my own parents upon me. I wonder how I can repay your infinite loving care and benevolence.

It is entirely thanks to you, dear leader, that I have lived beyond 80 despite my old age and illness.

I can hardly fall asleep at night because I feel very sorry that I have not yet repaid even a thousandth of your loving care and I have not fulfilled my obligation as a revolutionary soldier. I wish you, dear leader, eternal youth and longevity for the sake of the reunification of the country, the prosperity and development of our motherland and the world revolution.

Daily Views Kim Chong-il's Book on Socialism

SK1306113191 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1027 GMT 13 Jun 91

["Political Life Through Party Organisations and Political Organisations Led by the Party is Most Valuable Life of Social Beings"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang June 13 (KCNA)—Dear Comrade Kim Chong-il in his work "Our Socialism for the People Will Not Perish" propounded the [word indistinct] and theory that if the masses of people are to become genuine masters of politics and lead an independent and creative life to their heart's content, they must join party organisations and political organisations led by the party and take part in the politico-organisational life as befitting masters.

NODONG SINMUN in a signed article today explains that political life through party organisations and political organisations led by the party is the most valuable life of social beings.

The article quotes the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il as saying:

"If they are to become genuine masters of politics, the masses of the people must not only be masters of the state power, but also take part in the political life of parties and other organisations as befitting masters."

The article continues:

Through politico-organisational life, people can have their independent and creative demands met more satisfactorily and become genuine masters of politics.

In socialist society, the way for the popular masses to take an equal position as masters of the state and society and fully and positively perform their duty and role as masters of the revolution and construction is to join party organisations and political organisations led by the party.

For the popular masses to lead a politico-organisational life in party organisations and political organisations led by the party is a worthy work to preserve their most precious socio-political integrity.

The socio-political integrity of man, a social being, is not a natural gift and it is granted by the leader when man takes an active part in organisational and ideological life as a member of the socio-political community.

For people to part with party organisations and socio-political organisations led by the party means to part with the socio-political organism centred on the leader. Then they would lose their valuable political integrity.

For the popular masses to lead a politico-organisational life in working-class party organisations and political organisations led by the party is also an honorable work to take part in implementing the policies of the party and the state as befitting masters and creditably perform their role as masters of the state and society, as genuine masters of politics.

Under socialism, the popular masses must take part in implementing the policies of the party and the state as befitting masters and, to this end, properly lead an organisational life in working-class party organisations and political organisations led by the party.

That political life is the most valuable life has been clearly proved by our people's politico-organisational life.

Our party is so strong and the might of our socialism is fully displayed because it is supported by a good people who voluntarily take part in the revolutionary politico-organisational life as befitting masters, regarding it as a great happiness to be members of working-class party organisations and political organisations led by the party.

The imperialists and reactionaries disparage politico-organisational life in the working-class party and other political organisations led by the party as if it were the "restraint" of freedom. This is a reactionary act to blow the wind of corrupt bourgeois liberalisation into the popular masses, make them mental cripples, tear society and people asunder and weaken the politico-ideological might of socialism.

Therefore, the revolutionary people and the people building socialism must always be on alert for such act of the imperialists and reactionaries and strengthen their politico-organisational life.

Construction of Minor Hydropower Stations Noted

SK0106151391 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1503 GMT 1 Jun 91

[Text] Pyongyang June 1 (KCNA)—The construction of minor hydro-power stations is in full swing in Korea.

The construction has been stepped up in real earnest since a resolution calling for extensively building minor power stations through a mass movement was adopted at the 19th plenary meeting of the fifth Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea in December 1979.

Over the past decade 1,300 or more minor power stations were built throughout the country.

Some 100 stations are under construction in South Hamgyong Province, some already completed and some at the final stage.

About 400 minor hydro-power stations were built in the province in the 1980's, creating an additional generating capacity of tens of thousands of kw.

Chagang Province is building 54 stations, 18 of which are at the stage of assembling equipment.

When those stations are completed, Chasong and Hwapyong and three other mountainous counties in the province will meet the demand for electricity by themselves.

The building of minor power stations are also being stepped up in South Pyongan, Yanggang, North Hamgyong and other provinces.

New Mineral Ore Deposits Discoveries Reported

SK1206151791 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1505 GMT 12 Jun 91

[Text] Pyongyang June 12 (KCNA)—Geological prospecting teams under the Ministry of Natural Resources development of the DPRK discovered a variety of rare and alloy element ore bodies including tungsten, boron and germanium in recent years.

Tungsten deposits of high content were discovered in the eastern and northern parts of the country and tungsten ore bodies in the central area.

Nickel ore bodies hundreds of metres long and dozens of metres thick were found in the northern and western areas.

Zirconium ore bodies and rare-earth ore bodies were found under syenite in the western part known to be devoid of metal chemical compounds.

Germanium ore bodies of high content were discovered in the coal streak in the central district.

Deposits of boron and other rare and alloy element ores were found in other areas.

The ore minerals will contribute to increasing variety and quality of metal goods and developing electronic, automation and other major industries and latest science and technology.

KCNA Review of 13 Jun Pyongyang Press

SK1306052491 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0436 GMT 13 Jun 91

[Press review]

[Text] Pyongyang June 13 (KCNA)—Papers here today carry news that the speech of the great leader President Kim Il-song at the opening session of the 85th Interparliamentary Conference has been studied and disseminated abroad and a lecture on the answers of President Kim Il-song to the questions raised by managing editor of the Japanese newspaper MAINICHI SHIMBUN was held at the Asian regional institute of the chuche idea.

NODONG SINMUN reports that President Kim Il-song received a letter from the participants in the inaugural meeting of the Zambia-Korea Friendship Association.

The paper conveys words of South Korean people ardently revering the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il.

The British paper BIRMINGHAM EVENING MAIL carried an article on the immortal flower Kimjongilia under the title "Daily Rising Reputation", reports the paper. The paper says that Korean jem pictures, an excellent art style of the Korean nation, are being created richly on a high level under the meticulous guidance and teachings of Comrade Kim Chong-il.

The paper comes out with an article titled "Political Life Through Party Organizations and Political Organizations Led By the Party Is Most Valuable Life of Social Beings."

Econews of the press includes reports that innovations have been effected in the production of chemical fertilizers and weeding is being done qualitatively in right season in the countryside.

NODONG SINMUN reports that a national excursion group of party officials of industrial establishments made an excursion to Mt. Paektu revolutionary battle sites.

Appearing in the paper are reports that the Seychellois president met the Korean ambassador to his country and a cooperation plan was signed between the academies of agricultural sciences of the DPRK and the USSR.

Papers give an account of the sojourn of the delegation of the Revolutionary Party of Tanzania in Korea.

Appearing in NODONG SINMUN is a statement made by Rolando Brena Pantoja, president of the National Executive Committee of the Left Revolutionary Union of Peru, supporting the DPRK's step for U.N. membership.

Given in the press is news that the spokesman for the South Korean National Democratic Front made public a commentary on the fourth anniversary of the June popular resistance in South Korea. Also seen there is a statement issued by the President of Kim Hyong-chik University of Education in denunciation of the brutal suppression of students by the South Korean authorities.

NODONG SINMUN conveys foreign public voices expressing solidarity with the South Korean students and people in their struggle against fascism and for democracy.

A commentary of the paper denounces the No Tae-u ruling group for resorting to fraud to lay a foundation for a long term office of the "Democratic Liberal Party" through the forthcoming "elections for the large city and provincial councils".

The South Korean news columns of the press include reports that the South Korean Presbyterian church urged the authorities to release the Rev. Mun Ik-hwan and 15,000 financial unionists urged the authorities to stop their moves to open the financial market.

NODONG SINMUN reports that the South Korean puppets committed every day hostile acts against the North near the Military Demarcation Line.

The paper carries articles under the headlines "Removal of Nuclear Threat on Korean Peninsula is Indispensable Prerequisite to Asian Peace" and "They Must Commit Themselves to Nuclear Safeguards to Us".

The first vice-chairman of the Soviet Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee published a statement supporting the joint statement of the political parties and public organizations of the DPRK, according to the paper.

The paper informs the readers that work is under way in China to step up the party's organizational and ideological building, the Supreme Soviet and party organizations of the Soviet Union rejected the attempt to change the name of Leningrad, the Soviet veteran fighters called for a step against the reactionaries' moves and American scholars and the European parliamentary delegation called for a halt to the economic blockade against Cuba.

The paper reports that the Romanian president rejected the attempt to retrieve the honor of a war criminal and the Ugandan president elaborated on the economic development of the country.

Papers inform the readers that a treaty of friendship and cooperation was signed between Germany and Poland.

South Korea

Seoul Expects North, South To Join UN 17 Sep

SK1306082791 Seoul YONHAP in English 0819 GMT 13 Jun 91

[Text] Seoul, June 13 (YONHAP)—The government expects South and North Korea to join the United Nations on Sept. 17, the day the General Assembly convenes, and wants to hold various cultural events jointly with North Korea to mark the occasion.

Working-level officials at unification-related ministries have designated the period between Aug. 15 (Liberation Day) and Sept. 17 a period of South-North cultural events and have decided to draw up a detailed schedule for commemorative programs in Seoul and Pyongyang.

The South will formally propose the joint events to the North after relevant ministers finalize the plan June 17.

Government 'May Review' UNC Deactivation

SK1306033591 Seoul YONHAP in English 0311 GMT 13 Jun 91

[Text] Seoul, June 13 (YONHAP) - Foreign Minister Yi Sang-ok said Thursday his government may review deactivation of the United Nations Command (UNC) in Korea and other issues arising from replacing the current armistice agreement with a permanent peace device after South and North Korea join the United Nations.

"There can hardly be disagreement on replacing the current truce accord that has suspended hostilities on a temporary basis with a peace guarantee device on the Korean peninsula," Yi said.

Yi made the remarks after he delivered a speech on the impact the U.N. admission of South and North Korea on the restructuring of the order on the Korean peninsula and in Northeast Asia at a breakfast meeting held at Press Center here.

Noting that the UNC is one of the signatories to the 1953 armistice agreement that ended the Korean war (1950-53), the foreign minister, however, emphasized the need for coordinating opinions of South and North Korea on the peace pact in advance since scrapping the truce accord under the circumstances may mar stability on the peninsula.

In response to questions posed by participants in the meeting sponsored by the Korea Regional Policy Institute, Yi also said admission to the world body by both halves of Korea would prompt improvement of relations toward the establishment of diplomatic ties between Seoul and Beijing.

Minister on Changes After North's UN Entry

SK1306014091 Seoul YONHAP in English 0057 GMT 13 Jun 91

[Text] Seoul, June 13 (YONHAP)—North Korea's admission to the United Nations alongside South Korea will oblige Pyongyang to amend its hardline policy and accept peaceful co-existence on the Korean peninsula, Foreign Minister Yi Sang-ok said Thursday.

Entry into the world body by both halves of Korea presaged a significant evolvement for their relations with the four powers surrounding the peninsula since it was an indispensable factor for a positive development, Yi said.

"South and North Korea, once admitted to the United Nations, would contribute to stabilizing inter-Korean relations by boosting mutual contact, exchanges and cooperation within the U.N. system, probably providing a turning point for an eventual peaceful unification of the divided country," said Yi in a breakfast meeting organized by a private resarch institute.

South and North Korea are expected to join the global body as separate entities this fall as the North, departing from its decades-long policy of clinging to "one Korea," has said it would seek U.N. membership.

The foreign minister said North Korea's decision to join the U.N. hardly means Pyongyang intends to fundamentally change its policy toward Seoul.

North Korea may, Yi said, launch an aggravated anti-Seoul campaign for the time being in an attempt to beef up its internal regimentation, while propagandizing its pet unification formula, a non-aggression declaration by both Koreas and de-nuclearization of the Korean peninsula.

Delivering a speech on the impact the U.N. admission of both Koreas on the restructuring of the order on the Korean peninsula and in Northeast Asia, he said a series of recent moves by the leaders of the United States, the Soviet Union, China and Japan will bring a signficant improvement in relations between the two Koreas and the four powers.

"I believe that the series of moves by the leaders of the powers mean a multi-pronged diplomatic effort has begun to create a new international order of reconciliation and cooperation in Northeast Asia," Yi said in the meeting, organized by the Korea regional policy institute.

Yi forecast U.N. membership would promote Seoul's diplomatic ties with Beijing, whose practical line, shown in Pyongyang's decision to enter the United Nations, has opened a new horizon in normalizing relations with Seoul.

North Korea's signing of the IAEA's [International Atomic Energy Association] safeguards accord and its faithful implementation would mitigate international apprehension about its nuclear weapons development and its bid to set up formal ties with Japan and the United States, he said.

Seoul's admission to the world body was not the end, but a step that would constitute reconciliation and harmony between South and North Korea and an intermediate stage to the peninsula's eventual reunification, and it depended on how both capitalized on their status in the world body, Yi said.

* North Faces 'Critical' Food Shortage

912C0178A Seoul WOLGAN CHOSON in Korean No 3, Mar 91 pp 323-330

[Article by O Tae-chin: "North Korea's Rice Production Hits the Bottom, Spells a Crisis for the Regime"]

[Text]**Stopped Disclosing Grain Production Figures**

Economic indexes and various other statistics are a handy measure in sizing up a nation's economy or the living standard of its people. North Korea's case is an exception, however. It has published no statistics on its economy for a long time now.

This is true with its food situation too, which is said to have been chronically deteriorating since the 1970's. The last time North Korea released its official statistics was in 1982, on industrial gains, and in 1984 in the case of grain production. Meanwhile, according to its intermittent releases which had continued until recently, the national income was $2,400 for 1986 and $2,530 for 1988.

The 1984 report put North Korea's annual grain production at 10 million tons. An unofficial 1989 report on "10 major economic targets" also put the grain production target at 10 million tons. Although questionable in credibility, the figure means a sufficient quantity to feed the 20 million population.

In contrast to witness accounts by refugees and visitors, North Korean authorities have maintained as imposing an attitude as the statistical figures they release. At the time of the 1984 Seoul flood disaster, they sent 50,000 som (approximately 7,200 tons) of rice to South Korea. Last year, when the media belatedly reported the fact that North Korea had received a donation of "rice of love" collected by Christian groups in the South, their response was a total flurry, saying the rice in question "shall be returned at once." Also, during the North-South high-level talks last year, when our side hinted at its willingness for assistance in rice, Premier Yon Hyong-muk confidently said "On our side, we have no worries about rice at all." In view of their sensitivity to the matter of pride or face toward the South, it obviously amounted to nothing more than a bluff.

Lately, however, there have been clear signs, one after another, that the North Korean food shortage has reached such a critical stage that they are compelled to abandon their efforts to put up a front. In mid-January this year, North Korea—through a trade firm in Singapore—proposed to buy 100,000 tons of rice from South Korea for

$100 per ton, a price far below the international market level ($385 per ton in medium-grade California rice). It even suggested payment to be made not in hard currency but in North Korea's primary products, such as pollack.

Request for Seeds, Technique of "Reunification"-Strain Rice

According to the National Unification Board, North Korea came to sound out the South on shipping a total of 435,000 tons of South Korean rice, on four occasions between December last year and the end of January this year. Meanwhile, it has been known that North Korea also requested seeds of "Reunification"-strain rice and know-how on its cultivation.

In November last year, Premier Yon Hyong-muk made an official visit to China and launched economic diplomacy and it came to light then that the visit's main purpose was to find a way to resolve North Korea's food shortage. Under the "agreement of economic cooperation" signed at that time, China agreed to offer $150 million to North Korea over a period of 5 years and it also came to light that the money was intended for food purchases. Also, during his Southeast Asia tour in January this year, Premier Yon Hyong-muk informed the Thai premier of North Korean plans to import 1 million tons of rice and 500,000 tons of feed-purpose tapioca (a kind of potato) from Thailand within the next 2 or 3 years. He also talked to Indonesian and Malaysian officials about North Korean plans to import rice.

How much food does North Korea need to import? The Institute of the Socialist Economy, under the USSR Academy of Sciences, in its assessment toward the end of last year said that "North Korea imported 1 million tons of food in 1989; however, due to the 1990 crop failure, it will have to import 2.2 to 2.5 million tons in the future." According to the institute, "It is seriously feared that a famine will occur this spring and North Korea is likely to ask international organizations for food aid. For internal reasons, however, the Soviet Union is unable to extend food assistance."

The report for 1989, released toward the end of last year, stated that 2.16 million tons of rice, 2.7 million tons of corn, and 600,000 tons of other grains were produced for a total of 5.5 million tons (in terms of refined grain). The total figure shows a 5.2 percent increase over the 1988 production of 5.2 million tons. Meanwhile, according to an estimate by the National Unification Board, North Korea's minimum need is 6.5 million tons, including seeds, feed, processing- and storage-purpose grains, plus possible losses. This means that the shortfalls were approximately 1.3 million tons in 1988 and 1 million tons in 1989.

The crop failure was even worse last year due to low temperatures in the April-May growing period, downpours in the July-September period plus the chronic fertilizer shortage. According to unofficial estimates by authorities, the 1990 grain production was 4.8 million tons (including 1.93 million tons of rice), 12 percent down in comparison with 1989.

Hungry Soldiers Even Raid Farms Nearby

The food shortage in North Korea, however, is best described by refugees' and visitors' accounts.

According to a Korean resident in the United States who recently visited North Korea, he even saw a placard of a "two-meals-a-day movement" during the visit. An informed Japanese source who visited North Korea in January was quoted in a daily as saying that "there were frequent incidents in which hungry soldiers raided cooperative farms nearby, breaking into warehouses to plunder grain and slaughter domestic animals like cattle, pigs and chickens. I heard that as many as 16 such incidents occurred during my stay there." "Since early this year," says the same source, "North Korea has imported considerably large quantities of flour from a Mideast country and the Southeast Asian region."

A Korean resident in Washington who visited North Korea in early 1989 had an incredible story to tell. "In numerous cases, they would even eat feed for livestock," he says, "and due to the feed shortage thus caused, many chicken plants (poultry farms) have been closed down." According to a Korean resident in China who was in Wonsan at about the same time, "the food distributions are usually delayed. Skipping one meal a day is nothing unusual now and people even boil raw wheat and eat it."

Chong Hyon, 25, who fled to South Korea in August last year while studying at Donetsk Engineering College, describes the situation in Pyongyang in 1987, the first year of a 4-year crop failure, as follows:

"When I returned to Pyongyang during the 1987 vacation, I found the life there more difficult than in 1985, the year I left there. One day I attended a life critique program at the Great Study Hall of the People and, during the lunch break, I visited my grandmother on my mother's side who lived with my aunt's family, carrying my lunch with me. It was lunch time and the family was having what they called "flour rice"—rice and wheat mixed in a ratio of 1 to 7 and made into porridge with flour. The "flour rice" had a nut color because they cook it by spraying flour on rice and wheat.

"My mother was a designer at the City Planning Institute of Pyongyang. She designed the Tower of the Chuche Ideology, the Arch of Triumph and others and was decorated by Kim Il-song on a number of occasions for the works. Meanwhile, my father was a colonel of the People's Constabulary and served as a deputy to the Pyongyang City People's Assembly before he died. As a result, our family belonged to a privileged class and enjoyed a high living standard.

"So, the lunch I carried with me that day was rice, chicken and pork. When I put out my lunch to share it with my two- and three-year-old nephews, they hesitated as if to read the minds of other members of the family. Under the circumstances, I couldn't dare to eat my lunch. So, I just came out of the house and smoked, crying."

Kim Chi-il, 26, also fled to South Korea with Chong Hyon after graduating from the dynamics-mathematics department of Kharkov University in the USSR. He had also spent his 1987 vacation in Pyongyang. Kim Chi-il says:

"Students in the Soviet Union would buy lots of food before they went home to Pyongyang on vacation. Formerly, regulations were strict and it was tough to clear customs; there has been a change in the regulations, however—since when I don't know—and now one can bring in as much food as he wants. I myself took 10 kilograms of rice with me in June 1987.

"In 1989, Hwang Chol-su, ambassador to Senegal, was called back to Pyongyang and he stopped over in the Soviet Union en route home. We had known each other in Pyongyang. He asked me to buy foodstuffs for him to bring home. Although not an easy thing to do, I had to do the shopping and fill a long list of orders, including 50 kilograms of rice, 60 kilograms of sugar, 30 cans of pork each containing 500 grams, 100 toilet soaps, 60 laundry soaps, 100 boxes of Indian-made medicine for the liver, and penicillin. Hwang Chol-su's father had fought the guerrilla war side by side with Kim Il-song; Hwang himself had served in an ambassadorial post for 20 years. For all that, he still had to humiliate himself making that sort of request to me."

Han Song-ho, 22, who came over to the South all by himself in June last year while a student of the Russian literature department of Moscow University, had the following story about his 1988 vacation in Pyongyang:

"My first impression on arrival at Sunan Airport was that people looked quite depressed. While going through customs, I slipped three packs of Soviet-made cigarettes into the hand of the official. Then, he passed me, saying "You don't have anything to report, do you?" but did nothing further. The phrase I heard most frequently while in Pyongyang was 'Be nice'—an expression demanding a bribe."

False "Rice Exporting Country" Propaganda Still There

In the view of Yim Chong-hui, 26, formerly a nurse at Kaesong Children's Hospital, who fled to the South in 1989, the food shortage took a turn for the worse in 1984, the year North Korea sent relief grain to Seoul flood victims. In her experience, the instances of famine reported in the South Korean media lately are actually nothing new. She said, drawing on her experiences:

"In the 1987 spring, on the food distribution day, which came once every 15 days, Kaesong residents, not even bothering to go to work, would form lines in front of the distribution centers. The reason was that the supply would be short and they would be unable to get their full rations if they were late. The flustered authorities would come out and make them disperse, virtually by force, complaining that "it would be a shame if foreigners see this." The trouble continued, however, throughout the spring that year.

"In 1988, wheat from the USSR was distributed and those who couldn't afford to make flour of it just boiled it and ate it. The wheat was blackish and hard and people had to soak it in water for days before boiling. Nevertheless, it was hard to digest. People quickly realized that it was half-polished wheat normally used as horse feed. From then on, they called it "half-hulled wheat" or "half wheat." Meanwhile, from time to time, rice from Southeast Asia which totally lacked gluten was distributed.

"Nevertheless, authorities continued with their "rice exporting country" claim, saying that rice was being exported to underdeveloped countries such as Africa. According to them, the Soviet Union and China also wanted to have rice from North Korea, saying 'since you are a rice exporting nation, you should send us rice.' The authorities' position was that 'inasmuch as we are a rice exporting nation, we must export rice at all costs.' In retrospect, it really made no sense. But people had no critical spirit and they simply thought that it might be so if they said so.

"In hospitals, each clinic maintained a four- to five-pyong vegetable bed to grow herbs to ease medicine shortages. The six clinics in our hospital had approximately 30 pyong of lots altogether for that purpose; we planted not herbs but grain crops like beans and corn on them, however, to meet a demand far more urgent among hospital employees. In consequence, we had to go to work in the mountains in the spring and fall every year looking for herbs. The rice and non-rice cereal mixing ratio for the rationed grain varied irregularly, ranging from 5-5 to 2-8. When I visited Manpo, my hometown in Chagang Province in 1988, the ratio there was 1-9. It was then that I realized that the food situation was even worse in the countryside."

Chong Yong-chol, 21, was a People's Army corporal serving as a member of the constabulary in the Demilitarized Zone in the Chorwon area when he defected to the South in 1989. He said that raids on nearby farms by hungry soldiers occurred frequently almost to the extent that no days passed without hearing about them from the time he began his military service in 1987.

Beef Price per Kilogram Equivalent to 20 Days' Wage

He said: "My father and mother were both party members and, as a result, I was assigned to the constabulary, which requires a strict background clearance. Members of the constabulary were normally fed so much better than those of infantry units that they were an object of envy. In the regulations, the daily meals should have included 750 grams of pure rice per person, plus 30 kilograms of pork per platoon (33 persons) once every 10 days, plus the cigarette ration of seven packs for every 10 days. In fact, however, the rice didn't even fill half of the bowl, prompting men to curse 'this damned bombed-out rice!' Whether it was the result of a basically short supply or of pilferage by superior units was never clear. As for pork, the ration came once every 2 months—and one third of the regulation in quantity. The situation was even worse when you were transferred to reserve units in the rear.

"As far as vegetables are concerned, those units were placed on a self- supporting basis and men had to grow them on lots in the unit compound. All the side dishes we had were what they called the 'three salted brothers'—Chinese and another kind of cabbage and radishes just salted without any other seasonings. There were farm fields of approximately 15,000 pyong in the company headquarters compound and personnel grew corn on them. We were working on the fields one day in March 1988 when there was a large supply of corn noodles for lunch. Since I was very hungry, it didn't take much time for me to finish six bowls of noodles. All my colleagues ate at least as much as I did and many even more. Of all duties in the constabulary, standing sentry was the most important one. Nevertheless, just to forget about their hunger, all of us deliberately tried to fall asleep while on sentry duty."

A serial note by a North Korean resident published in SPORTS KOREA in August was mostly about food. The author had returned to North Korea after studying in Moscow. The note, describing the living conditions of general residents in a provincial city and Pyongyang, was sent to Seoul through an unidentified channel. It said, among other things:

"Even for corn, people have to buy it on time; otherwise, the prices would soar. No households would find the rationed food enough to satisfy them. Corn cost 7 won per kilogram when the price is low. When the fall comes, all rush to stock up as much corn as possible even if they have to borrow money for it. Polished rice is expensive. It costs 14 won per kilogram. So, if you can afford polished rice, they think you are rich. The rice ration always falls short. Where you should get 700 grams, they would give you only 450 grams. So, you would inevitably become hungry. If one should live with the rationed rice, cooking it into porridge would be the only way. Only 20 percent of the ration comes in polished rice. Once it even went down to 10 percent. So, even the head of the family takes the yellowish corn lunch with him to his workplace. Taking that kind of lunch to the workplace is no longer regarded as a shame. How fortunate it is to have a lunch packed full even if the content is corn!

"Meat is expensive indeed. The black market price is 30 won per kilogram. The worker's wage is barely 45 won a month. Should he enjoy one meat dinner and go hungry for one whole month? There is this man who heard that if you eat the 30-won black market meat, you would die. So, he went ahead and bought and ate that meat just to see if he would really die. He didn't die after all, he said, with a sad smile on his face. I still remember his smile.

"When we got together and were watching television, there was this news report about South Korean farmers holding demonstrations to protest the government policy on beef imports from America. We found it boiling down to one thing—the protest meant that there was enough beef available in South Korea. "Well, how about sending some of that beef over here to North Korea," quipped one of us. Everybody laughed. In South Korea, they are fighting not to buy beef. When will there be a policy that gives us access to beef?

"Rice and Meat Soup" a 1940 Slogan

"I haven't tasted sugar for a long, long time. Things had been better until 1974. We could buy meat for 5 chon and sugar and things like finger candies were still available. In the store, there were white-tiled counters for confectioneries, edible oil, bean paste and soy sauce. When I was a child, I used to go there hanging on my mother's skirt. But the store has now disappeared and standing in its place is the Study Hall for Comrade Kim Il-song's Revolutionary History.

"The line of students visiting the Study Hall never ends. If they were told that 'in the olden days there was a store standing in this place where people could buy as much sugar and candy as they wanted,' what would they say? Obviously, they would give you an incredulous look."

The fact that the North Korean food situation is extremely difficult was clearly disclosed in a keynote speech at the "Report Meeting for the 45th Anniversary of the Founding of the Agricultural Workers Union [AWU]" at the Cultural Palace of the People in Pyongyang on 30 January. The speaker, AWU Chairman Pak Su-tong, said that "we must capture the grain production target without fail in revolutionary spirit." He emphasized: "We must brilliantly carry out the will of our leader and the comrade leader for bringing into reality the wishes of our people for having white rice and meat soup daily, wearing silk clothes and living in tile-roofed houses."

North Korea first came up with the "rice and meat soup" slogan in its official documents and reports in the rehabilitation period following the Korean war. Forty years have passed since then and the slogan is still there unfulfilled. The only difference is that the "boiled rice" ["ibab"] was expanded to "white rice" ["huin ssalbab"] at the latest AWU meeting.

The rephrasing seemingly stems from the fact that the expression "white rice" is more popular among postwar generations and easier to understand. In connection with the food shortage, North Korea has been using as slogans such symbolic expressions as "Rice Is Communism" and "From the Rice Bin Comes the Public Confidence" to stress the importance and urge the increased production of rice and other foodstuffs. Lately, however, instead of such roundabout expressions, it has more frequently been using this expression: "Of all the tasks facing us in our socialist economic construction, most urgent is to resolve the question of food."

In fact, the food shortage has become a factor of unrest to the North Korean socialist system in that it is stirring residents to keenly feel the difference between rich and poor. Residents must make up for the short rations one way or another and this situation has led to the development of private markets. The so-called farmers market is a typical one.

In North Korea's rural areas, private markets—called marketplaces—have existed since the latter half of the 1960's, although on an informal basis. In those places, surplus produce of cooperative farms, vegetables grown privately on kitchen gardens around individual houses, livestock products from family sidelines are bartered with daily necessities such as cereals, shoes, soap and needles.

Farmers' Devotion to Kitchen Gardens

North Korean authorities had unofficially tolerated those private markets, citing such merits as that they contribute to the livelihood of cooperative farm members and their will to work and meet temporary demands for daily necessities. Eventually in 1984 or so, they officially authorized them as the Farmers Market. Authorities built one makeshift structure that only had a roof in each district (equivalent to ward in the South) in most cities including Pyongyang. They also set up a custodian's office in each marketplace to collect fees from users.

While transactions in goods like rice and other staple grain, textiles, clothes, liquor and cigarettes are officially banned in the farmers markets, black-marketeering is very vigorous. Thus, when the going prices of approved goods are usually a little more than 10 times the state prices, those of foodstuffs are more than 200 times. Rice costs 15 to 25 won per kilogram, and corn 9 to 12 won. This inevitably spawns differences in livelihood between the rich and the poor.

North Korea's agricultural slump, like the stagnation in other industrial spheres, was caused by the planned economy based on totalitarianism ignoring individuals' profit motives and initiatives—the planned economy that reached its limitations a long time ago. The North Korean farming system takes the form of a collectivist framework based on the so-called Chongsan-ni work method. It denies private ownership on everything ranging from land to implements such as sickles and hoes; under this system, members receive their shares of distribution according to the quantity and quality of their contributions to collective labor.

The decline in the farmers' zeal for production is well illustrated in the development of "kitchen gardens." Yi U-hong, a Korean resident in Japan who served as a lecturer at Wonsan Agricultural College, describes the North Korean farmers' devotion to their kitchen gardens in his book "The Dark Republic." He writes:

"What farmers rely on most are vegetables they grow in the kitchen gardens around their houses and a few domestic animals they raise. They are legally allowed to retain 30 to 50 pyong of kitchen gardens per household and to raise up to three pigs and some chickens, rabbits and ducks.

"I saw a variety of vegetables being grown in those kitchen gardens 20 to 30 pyong in size and located around each farm house which generally houses two families. Among them were pumpkins that looked like melons, Chinese and other kinds of cabbage, radishes, onions, chili peppers, garlic and carrots.

"In comparison with cooperative farms or state farms, kitchen gardens are tiny, postage stamp-size strips of land. Despite the size, the meticulously cultivated lots show most vividly the infinite devotion of the farmers who own them. I saw weeds everywhere in cooperative farms where they work from morning till late at night every day, but not in those kitchen gardens.

"Even the narrow areas around the lots and ridges were absolutely free of weeds. Looking at the small but meticulously maintained lots, I was often moved to tears thinking of the serious faces of those farmers devoting themselves to working on them either on holidays or after finishing a days's hard work on a cooperative farm."

The massive creation of "terraced fields" under the so-called chuche farming method is responsible for the backwardness in agricultural productivity and for damage from storms and floods. Those fields were created in virtually all mountainous areas that could possibly be cultivated by human labor in order to expand the geographically limited arable land and to increase corn production. However, the terraced fields brought about devastation of forests, mud slides, and rises in river beds, even aggravating storm and flood damage to crops on flatland fields.

"Terraced Fields" Responsible for Backwardness

Nevertheless, North Korea has continued to treat farm products as major export items. It has managed its external economy by relying on barter trade but had few industrial products for exports; consequently, it had no alternative but use its primary products as a means to settle trade accounts.

North Korea has primarily been exporting such farm products as corn and vegetables to the Soviet Union. In 1987 alone, half of the total corn production was used to settle accounts with the Soviets. In the first place, it was for exporting to the USSR that North Korea began growing corn, which is not suitable to the Korean diet, and especially the feed corn as a main crop on the same scale as rice.

In the difficult situation they are in now, however, North Korean residents do not even have enough of that feed corn for themselves.

The food shortage in North Korea should be seen from a viewpoint transcending the simple reason about production falling short of demand. It should be grasped from the point that the leadership, instead of importing food to fill up the shortage, has been using the food ration system to the maximum as a means of control to restrain the demand.

North Korea believed that as long as it maintained the rationing system, which is the most powerful means to control and subjugate residents to the will of the leadership, they can resolve—and will continue to be able to resolve—any food shortages from the law of supply and demand by adjusting the rations.

However, it appears that the control by the rationing system in which North Korea placed its faith has come to the end of its effectiveness. It is for that reason that North Korea is currently vigorously sounding out various countries, including South Korea, on food imports.

Protestants To Discuss Reunification in Tokyo

SK1306084691 Seoul YONHAP in English 0700 GMT 13 Jun 91

[Text] Seoul, June 13 (YONHAP)—South and North Korean protestant leaders are expected to discuss reunification of the Korean peninsula and evangelization of Koreans in Japan at an international meeting in Tokyo on July 9-12.

The second annual Christian Conference on mission and the reunification of the fatherland will include four participants from North Korea, 40 from South Korea, 20 from Japan, 10 from the United States, and five each from Canada and Germany.

High on the agenda are unification issues, cooperative evangelization of Koreans in Japan and communication between Overseas Koreans.

A church source said the southern participants had not been chosen but the North would send the Rev. Ko Ki-chon, the Rev. Kim Un-pong and Yi Chol-min of the Korea Christians Federation and an interpreter, Kim Hye-sok.

Economic, Diplomatic Ties With PRC Viewed

SK1306023591 Seoul YONHAP in English 0214 GMT 13 Jun 91

[Text] Seoul, June 13 (YONHAP)—South Korea will seek negotiations with China on signing bilateral economic agreements before they proceed with efforts to normalize their diplomatic relations, Korea's top diplomat in China was quoted as saying Wednesday.

South Korea would prepare an agenda for negotiations and make efforts to sign major agreements on repealing discriminatory customs duties, avoidance of double taxation and an investment guarantee by the end of the year, a government official quoted No Chae-won, head of the Korea trade representative office in Beijing, as saying.

The Korea Trade Promotion Corp. and a Chinese group will help complete the agreements as the two countries are yet to establish diplomatic relations, he said.

"It seems that China has accommodated North Korea's opposition to Seoul-Beijing normalization in return for pushing Pyongyang to enter the United Nations. So it is more desirable for South Korea to solve bilateral economic problems before promoting political and diplomatic relations," he quoted No as saying.

China has shown a positive attitude toward repealing customs duties imposed on Korean goods that are 5-30 percent higher than the normal, he reported No as saying.

As for non-governmental agreements on avoidance of double taxation and an investment guarantee, he said No was reviewing the legal problems because the pacts must be ratified by the National Assembly.

Agency Signs Advertising Deal With PRC Firm

SK1306020791 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 13 Jun 91 p 6

[By staff reporter Kang Sok-chae]

[Text] A local marketing communications agency has earned the exclusive right to advertise on bus shelters in downtown Beijing and Tianjin, opening a new chapter in Korean-Chinese advertising relations.

"The contracts would serve as the most effective channels for companies seeking to advertise in China's two large cities," said Yi Yong-su, general manager of J & R Communications, in an interview yesterday.

Yi, 31, said that he and Zhao Fengyun, deputy general manager of Phoenix International Advertising Co., signed the contract for bus shelter advertising May 25 in Beijing.

Under the contract, the Chinese advertising firm, which has joint venture ties with a U.S. firm, acknowledged J & R's exclusive advertising right for Korean companies to 200 bus shelters on 10 bus lines in downtown Beijing.

"The contract was made possible with the help of the state-run Beijing Industrial & Commercial Advertising Company as the firm provided a link to Phoenix, which is permitted to engage in foreign business," said Yi, who went to Beijing to wrap up the contract in early May.

He said in addition to the exclusive bus-shelter ad sales right, his company earned rights to eight other mediums, including billboard and neon-sign advertisements.

Yi signed a five-year contract with Tang Xiao Chuan, vice general manager of Golden Horse International Joint (Tianjin) Co. May 27, which earned J & R the exclusive ad sales right for both local and foreign companies to 500 bus shelters in Tianjin.

The contract is effective for a full five years starting January 1992.

"The Tianjin deal is the first in the world in that we have worldwide advertising rights to all bus lines in Tianjin," the young businessman said.

He said that when Korean companies want to advertise on bus shelters, the word "Korea" and Korean characters should be avoided as Korea does not have full diplomatic ties with China.

He said the Tianjin city government welcomed the contract for city buautification reasons.

For effective advertising space sales, he said that he will recommission ad agencies in Japan, Hong Kong and the United States to cover international businesses of the Tianjin deal, but his company will do domestic sales business.

"Many local companies are showing great interest in our contract and I think the prospects for advertising marketing in the two Chinese cities are enormous as China is moving toward a free market economy at an accelerated pace," Yi said.

He said he had taken notice of the Chinese advertising market shortly after the 1990 Beijing Asian Games and he grabbed the chance despite China's difficult and delicate administrative procedures.

Daehong Advertising Inc., a local ad agency, concluded a business cooperation agreement with a Shanghai advertising company in February 1991, the first Korean firm to do so, but has made no concrete projects since then, Yi said.

Container Maker Plans Venture With PRC Firm

SK1305102691 Seoul THE KOREA ECONOMIC JOURNAL in English 13 May 91 p 15

[Text] Ace Industry, a Korean specialist container engineering firm, will build a tripartite container manufacturing plant in China in cooperation with Lucky-Goldstar Int'l Corp., one of Korea's leading general trading firms, and Cang Zhou Chemical Machinery Co. of China, industry sources said.

The plant, the first of its kind to be built by a Korean firm in the PRC, will be located in Hebei Province and named JIELUCK-ACE International Co. Ltd.

The three parties will make a total investment of $24.9 million at a ratio of 75 percent for Cang Zhou Chemical Machinery, 12.5 percent for Ace Industry and another 12.5 percent for Lucky-Goldstar Int'l.

Construction started on March 5 and will be completed by the end of next January. The plant will produce 12,000 20-foot containers annually in 1992 and the capacity will double to 24,000 units from 1993.

The Chinese company is responsible for the plant site and labor, while Korean firms are in charge of facilities, primary/secondary materials and sales.

Four technicians sent by Ace Ind. are now providing technical aid at the Chinese plant.

Ferry Service to China Attracts More Passengers

SK1306020291 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 13 Jun 91 p 8

[Text] The car ferry service between Inchon of Korea and Weihai of China has been attracting a growing number of passengers recently. The service was launched in September last year.

Statistics available from Weidong Car Ferry Co. showed that 2,729 passengers used the ferry to travel to China in May, an increase of 944 persons from March.

Tourists coming from China on the ferry also increased by 1,189 persons from March to 3,965 persons in May.

During the first five months of this year, 11,068 persons travelled to China aboard the ferry and 14,319 persons came to Korea from China.

Since the inauguration of the service in September, car users totaled 9,413 persons—4,413 persons from China to Korea and 5,000 persons the other way.

A Weidong official cited as contributors to the growing number of ferry users visits of ethnic Koreans from China, businessmen's trips to China amid expansion of economic exchanges and travel in groups by students and businessmen for on-the-spot training.

Weidong which has provided two sailings a week, plans to launch another service to Qingdao with two sailings a week in the latter half of this year as Korean businesses have advanced to the region for investment, the official said.

Impact of More Chinese Noodle Imports Surveyed

SK3105040491 Seoul THE KOREA ECONOMIC JOURNAL in English 27 May 91 p 8

[Text] Domestic starch and noodle business circles have proposed that Chinese noodle imports be temporarily restricted or tariffs be increased by 100 percent. Such a measure they claim is necessary to curb the rapid increase of Chinese noodle imports.

The authorities concerned have been conducting a survey on injuries caused to the nation's sweet potato farmers and related industries. If the government should only increase tariffs to a certain rate, it will bear no substantive effect, the business circles said. Last March, Korean Chinese noodle business circles filed a request with authorities to survey the possible damage caused by the imports.

They said that the government should take some strong measures to protect domestic industries. The import price for Chinese-made noodles, including the 13-percent import duty, is less than a half the price for Korean-made Chinese noodles.

At present, imports of Chinese noodles are chiefly led by some 10 large corporations, including Bing-Grae and Samho Corporation. The imports have caused enormous damage, estimated at some 100 billion won, to domestic industries.

USSR Urges MFN for Economic Cooperation

SK3105034591 Seoul THE KOREA ECONOMIC JOURNAL in English 27 May 91 p 2

[Text] It is urgent that Korea and the Soviet Union work out the legal machinery guaranteeing most favored nation (MFN) treatment to each other in an effort to promote economic cooperation between the two countries, Soviet Ambassador to Korea Oleg M. Sokolov said.

He made these remarks at a meeting with Korean business leaders hosted by the Korean Standards Association on May 16.

The construction of a gas pipeline linking South Korea and Japan and the use of the North Korea railway system to transport coal and timber from the Soviet Union—if they materialize—would contribute greatly to relations with North Korea, he said.

He said such cooperation should also be open to third countries, including North Korea.

Various cooperation should be sought simultaneously on three basic levels: between the two governments, between economic organizations and between direct participants in trade and economic exchanges, he said.

Soviet Science, Technology Delegation Arrives

SK3105092591 Seoul YONHAP in English 0903 GMT 31 May 91

[Text] Seoul, May 31 (YONHAP)—Nikolay Laverov, head of the Soviet State Committee for Science and Technology, arrived Friday with a 10-member delegation for a conference of Korean and Soviet science and technology ministers in Seoul June 1-10.

Laverov said Seoul and Moscow would discuss joint nuclear and optical electronics development and cut through the red tape for opening a Korea-Soviet science and technology cooperation center at the Korea Institute of Science and Technology.

The Soviet Union's top science-technology official said he was satisfied with the progress of Seoul-Moscow scientific and technological cooperation in the last six months.

The Soviets focus on basic science study while the Koreans have good brains for turning scientific results to commercial use, so the combination will prove profitable for both sides, he said.

Moscow-Pyongyang scientific exchanges were still going on in basic science, but direct technology transfer such as for nuclear power plants had come to a standstill, Laverov said.

USSR Urges Change in Import List of 15 Plants

SK2305021191 Seoul YONHAP in English 0152 GMT 23 May 91

[Text] Seoul, May 23 (YONHAP)—The Soviet Union asked South Korea Wednesday for a change in its tentative import list of 15 plants worth 500 million U.S. dollars, trade sources said Thursday.

V.N. Koptevskiy, Asia director of the Soviet Exterior Economy Ministry, asked Trade and Industry Ministry officials to drop the audio and audio-tape manufacturing facility and add a pharmaceutical factory, they said.

Seoul persuaded Moscow the cost of the audio plant was no higher than Germany's and agreed to discuss the pharmaceutical venture, the sources said.

The two sides agreed on the tentative list in March and are to conclude it and set quotas for Korean firms in June. The deal is worth 500 million U.S. dollars.

Koptevskiy called for adjustments in items and amounts Monday in negotiations on 1.5 billion dollars of consumer goods.

Korea has agreed to supply the Soviet Union with 3 billion dollars of economic cooperation over the three years to 1993.

The talks continued Thursday.

Three Firms Plan Consortium Venture for USSR

SK1305103691 Seoul THE KOREA ECONOMIC JOURNAL in English 13 May 91 p 15

[Text] Goldstar, Daewoo Telecom and Hyundai Electronics reportedly plan to form a consortium to construct a Korea-USSR telecommunications business center in Moscow in a joint venture with Soviet partners.

These three firms have already received favorable Soviet responses for their master plan, and are working on a detailed plan, business sources said.

According to the master plan, the Soviet side will provide a site for the center, while the Korean consortium will build and operate the center.

The three Korean firms also are reviewing a plan to build an international telecommunications station either in Vladivostok, Khabarovsk or in Nakhodka, in a Soviet joint venture, the sources said.

Construction Deals With East-Bloc Firms Sought

SK1306022291 Seoul YONHAP in English 0203 GMT 13 Jun 91

[Text] Seoul, June 13 (YONHAP)—The government will promote joint ventures between South Korean and East European companies to crack the Soviet construction market, and has already agreed with Hungary, Yugoslavia and Finland to conclude construction cooperation agreements, Construction Ministry officials said on Thursday.

The government will soon sign an agreement with Hungary.

The Ministry will also make positive efforts to make inroads into the Chinese construction market, they said.

The Soviet Union and China are seen as promising construction markets as orders from the Middle East, which was Korea's largest market, are off sharply and Korean construction companies are not equipped to compete in advanced countries.

The Soviet Union will be the world's largest construction market if its economic development plan proceeds smoothly and East European countries, which are very familiar with the Soviet Union, have asked for joint advancement, they said.

The government will use the information and know-how on the Soviet Union of the East European countries to win construction orders, they said.

The Soviet Union is expected to seek international bids for a wide variety of construction projects, ranging from hotels and office buildings to roads and railways.

The government is studying whether to accept raw materials and natural resources in payment or whether to build the hotels and offices first and recoup the cost later by selling them to foreigners.

It is also looking into the possibility of employing ethnic Koreans on the projects.

Auto Exports to East-Bloc Nations Increase

SK3105020591 Seoul YONHAP in English 0117 GMT 31 May 91

[Text] Seoul, May 31 (YONHAP)—A Korean auto industry group said Friday 8,643 cars, buses and trucks worth 53.6 million U.S. dollars were sold in the first four months of the year in Eastern Europe, up almost 24-fold from 368 vehicles and 2.3 million dollars in 1990. The totals for 1990 were 9,505 vehicles and 62.6 million dollars.

Efforts to diversify markets were a primary reason for the surge as export conditions in North America are getting tougher, according to the Korea automobile manufacturers association.

Hyundai Motor Co., Korea's largest automaker, sold 4,128 vehicles to Yugoslavia and 3,480 to Poland. Asia Motors Co. sold 572 buses and four-wheel drive vehicles and KIA Motors Corp. 101, including 95 trucks.

Hungarian News Agency Director Arrives in Seoul

SK1306114491 Seoul YONHAP in English 1059 GMT 13 Jun 91

[Text] Seoul, June 13 (OANA-YONHAP)—Otto Oltvanyi, director general of Hungarian News Agency MTI, on Thursday flew to Seoul from Beijing to discuss ways to expand cooperations with YONHAP News Agency.

While staying here until June 17, Oltvanyi, accompanied by Adam Danko, editor-in-chief of MTI-econews, is to meet with his YONHAP counterpart Hyon So-hwan to exchange views on mutual cooperation between the two agencies.

Oltvanyi, who assumed his post last November, visited Beijing from June 9.

MTI is one of seven Eastern European news agencies which have agreed to exchange news and photographs with YONHAP.

Hyundai Automobile Exports to Bulgaria Reported

SK2305062991 Seoul YONHAP in English 0533 GMT 23 May 91

[Text] Seoul, May 23 (YONHAP)—Hyundai Motor Co. has shipped 300 Excel and 14 Sonata Saloon cars and one Chorus bus to Bulgaria and will export 300 more in early June, a company spokesman said Thursday.

Hyundai, South Korea's largest automaker, will use Bulgarian distributor Vega-Balkan for sales and expects to sell 1,000 vehicles in Bulgaria this year to the country.

Dissidents Wanted by Police Go on Hunger Strike

BK1306075891 Hong Kong AFP in English 0741 GMT 13 Jun 91

[Text] Seoul, June 13 (AFP)—A group of South Korean dissidents wanted by the police for leading anti-government protests went on a hunger strike Thursday at the cathedral where they have sought refuge, demanding not to be arrested.

They said they would remain in the Roman Catholic Church in the busy Myongdong district despite calls by church officials for their withdrawal and their own earlier announcement that they would leave.

Three dissident leaders briefly came out of the church hall where they have sought refuge for the past 25 days and told reporters they would stop eating in order to press their demands.

It was not clear if others would join them.

Police have laid seige to the church to arrest the more than a dozen dissidents, including Kang Ki-hoon, who is suspected of abetting a self-immolation by another dissident last month.

The dissidents demanded that the charges be dropped and that police lift the siege.

Church officials had earlier called on Mr. Kang and other dissidents to leave before Saturday, saying the church could not guarantee their safety after that.

Father Kyong Kap-sil, a priest at Myongdong, said the church and the police had reached an agreement that the police would not enter the church compound, provided the dissidents leave before Saturday.

Mr. Kang, who is suspected of writing a suicide note for his colleague, who set fire to himself last month to dramatize his anti-government feelings, said the accusations had been trumped up.

Charging that the government was exploiting his case ahead of local council elections, he asked the church to provide a safe place to ensure a fair investigation into his case.

Stephen Cardinal Kim, South Korea's top Roman Catholic leader, will send a letter to Prosecutor General Kim Ki-choon later Thursday to urge a fair investigation into the case, Fr. Kyong said.

Central Bank Head Reaffirms Tight-Money Policy

SK1306015491 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 13 Jun 91 p 6

[Text] The Bank of Korea [BOK] will continue to curb excessive liquidity in the coming months, Kim Kum, governor of the central bank, said yesterday.

In an address to celebrate the 41st anniversary of the founding of the Bank of Korea, Kim said, "The central bank is required to maintain the current position of keeping the year-on-year total money supply growth rate at projected 17-19 percent to achieve sustained, healthy economic growth," hinting that the BOK has no intention of revising the money supply projection for this year upward.

He hinted strongly that the central bank will continue to stick to its monetary squeeze, asserting that the BOK will closely watch excessive liquidity, amid the increasing inflationary psychology.

These remarks are in sharp contrast with a government move to raise the M2 growth rate by 2-3 percentage points.

Touching on the recent financial pinch, he said, "The central bank will exert all-out efforts to control inflation and speculation and correct the distorted money flow in a bid to ease financial difficulties. He asserted that financial trouble was caused by speculation on real estate, a construction boom and biased flow of money, far away from the shortage of money supply.

He also called for business circles to do their best to solve the fund trouble through self-financing efforts, instead of relying entirely on financing institutions.

On the issue of interest rate deregulation, he said that the central bank will seek to drastically liberalize interest rates to improve fund distribution structure, among other things.

Rankings in Exports, Imports for 1990 Reported

SK2205031291 Seoul YONHAP in English 0215 GMT 22 May 91

[Text] Seoul, May 22 (YONHAP)—South Korea was ranked 13th biggest exporting nation in the world last year, and 14th in imports, the Korea Foreign Trade Association (KFTA) said on Wednesday.

Korea had exports of 65 billion U.S. dollars last year, 1.9 percent of the global total of 3.47 trillion dollars, to retain 13th place. Its import ranking dropped to 14th from 13th in 1989 on imports of 70 billion dollars, also 1.9 percent of the world total of 3.6 trillion dollars.

Hong Kong and Taiwan, major competitors of Korea, ranked 11th at 82 billion dollars and 12th at 67 billion dollars of exports, respectively. For imports, they were 12th (82 billion dollars) and 16th (55 billion dollars), according to the Association.

The top exporting country in 1990 was Germany with 421 billion dollars, or 12.1 percent of the world total, followed by the United States with 394 billion dollars (11.4 percent) and Japan with 286 billion dollars (8.2 percent).

In imports, first place went to the United States at 515 billion dollars, or 14.3 percent of world imports, followed by Germany (356 billion dollars, 9.9 percent) and France (234 billion dollars, 6.5 percent).

Foreigners To Comment on Financial Opening-Up

SK2405094891 Seoul YONHAP in English 0925 GMT 24 May 91

[Text] Seoul, May 24 (YONHAP)—In a major change of attitude, the government will allow foreign governments and companies to formally present their views on Korea's financial market liberalization and other pending economic issues, Finance Ministry officials said Friday.

The government had regarded any expression of views by foreign governments concerning economic policies as "interference."

Yi Hwan-kyon, assistant planning and management minister, said the government decided to allow foreign governments to give their views to promote international cooperation.

Washington was notified in a meeting of the assistant finance ministers of the two countries in Tokyo Wednesday.

Yi said he delivered the government's position to Charles Dallara, assistant treasury secretary, and Dallara responded favorably.

The meeting was held to explain Korea's financial policy to the United States.

The U.S. Government is expected to collect opinions of U.S. businesses concerning Korea's opening of the stock market and convey a formal view to the Korean Government.

Yi said the decision meant a major change but did not mean that the government would accept the U.S. views.

Ways Sought To Protect Distribution Industry

SK1306062291 Seoul YONHAP in English 0602 GMT 13 Jun 91

[Text] Seoul, June 13 (YONHAP)—The government is studying ways to protect the distribution industry from damage after a further step toward opening in July by extending the industrial relief damage system, which is currently confined to the harm done by imports, officials at the Trade and Industry Ministry said Thursday.

Full opening of the distribution sector to foreign firms is set for 1995.

The Ministry will revise regulations in the foreign trade law pertaining to the industrial damage relief system to provide the legal basis for distribution firms to request the trade committee to investigate industrial damage caused by foreign distribution companies.

The changes will allow the committee to open an investigation at the request of a Korean distribution firm and act on it. The committee will begin preparations in a meeting of industrial scholars and experts Thursday afternoon.

The committee has handled 20 damage relief applications since its inauguration in July 1987, all of which concerned a sharp rise in imports or dumping of commodities.

Beginning July 1, foreigners will be able to establish up to 10 retail shops each of less than 1,000 square meters and sell 36 items.

Foreign Exchange Bank To Sign Syndicated Loan

SK1306060091 Seoul YONHAP in English 0519 GMT 13 Jun 91

[Text] Seoul, June 13 (YONHAP)—The Foreign Exchange Bank will sign a contract with an international syndicate in Hong Kong for a loan of 300 million U.S. dollars Friday, the largest loan ever by a Korean bank.

The syndicate comprises 47 banks from 11 countries and the loan is repayable on maturity. After a five-year grace period, the interest rate is LIBOR plus 0.4 percent. LIBOR is the London inter-bank offered rate.

The bank initially sought a 200 million-dollar loan, but a rush of applications to join the syndicate raised the amount by 100 million dollars.

Japanese banks contributed 164.5 million dollars, or 54.7 percent, followed by 21.4 percent for North American banks, 17.9 percent for European banks and 5.8 percent for others.

A Foreign Exchange Bank official said the loan, to be introduced within three months, will be available for liquidity control and foreign currency loans to industry.

New Wharf To Ease Congestion in Pusan Port

SK1306072391 Seoul YONHAP in English 0648 GMT 13 Jun 91

[Text] Seoul, June 13 (YONHAP)—The Korea Maritime and Port Administration (KMPA) said Thursday the container capacity of Pusan port would almost double when a new wharf opens on June 26, six months ahead of schedule.

KMPA began construction of the third container wharf at Pusan in 1985 as part of a project to expand the largest port in Korea. It will cost 270 billion won (372 million U.S. dollars).

The new wharf can accommodate three full-container ships, carrying more than 4,000 containers, at one time and the container yards cover 268,000 pyong (884,000 square meters). There is also a 1,700 kilometer-long breakwater.

The wharf has a capacity of 960,000 20-foot containers a year, increasing Pusan's total capacity to 1.86 million containers.

Last month 264 container ships, or 16.4 percent of all vessels visiting the port, waited outside the breakwater for about 40 hours. The severity of the congestion has made full-container ships avoid the port whenever possible.

Burma

Memorandum of Understanding Signed With Japan

BK1206152691 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1330 GMT 11 Jun 91

[Text] U Min Aung, acting director general of the Foreign Economic Relations Department, and Mr. Tomoya Kawamura, Japanese ambassador to Myanmar [Burma], exchanged a memorandum of understanding at the conference hall of the Ministry of Planning and Finance today.

Under the agreement, the Japanese Government will provide the Union of Myanmar Government with an assistance of 3 billion yen, or an equivalent of U.S.$21.8 million, to be written off import costs.

Kachin Opposition Leader Gives Interview

BK1106023591 Bangkok THE NATION in English 11 Jun 1 p A 3

[Text] Attempts by the Kachin Independence Organization (KIO) to initiate peace talks between Burma's armed ethnic resistance and the Burmese military junta have failed over the past year because of Rangoon's stance that it would only negotiate with individual parties.

The Kachin move had reportedly irritated some members of the 21-group Democratic Alliance of Burma (DAB), who said they were surprised at what they called a unilateral action by one of their member groups.

Kachin leader Brang Seng told THE NATION last week about the unsuccessful effort. A Kachin mission led by Dr Tu Ja met last Oct 18 with a Rangoon delegation at a small border town on the Sino-Burmese border.

But the negotiations broke down because of wide differences between the two parties. The ruling State Law and Order Restoration Council (Slorc) could not accept the KIO call for a nationwide ceasefire and direct peace talks with the DAB, said Brang Seng, who chairs the KIO.

Instead, Slorc maintained its position that it wished to talk exclusively with the Kachin group.

"They agreed that we need peace in the country, but couldn't agree (to talk) with the DAB, and only wanted (to talk to) the Kachin—which we could not accept," he said.

Since 1989, Slorc has managed to institute separate ceasefires with dissident ethnic groups in Shan State, including the Wa and Kokang groups, once the backbones of the now-defunct Burma Communist Party. The campaign led to agreements with small armies of the Shan, Kachin, Pa-O and Pa-laung minorities.

Brang Seng insisted that the meeting last October was just an "exploratory talk" to see if Slorc and the DAB had any common ground to settle decades-old internal struggle in Burma. He said that like other ethnic armies, the Kachin group wanted to see peace in the country with all national races having an equal say and status.

He admitted that the Kachin step was taken unilaterally without consultations with any other DAB members, but added that the KIO planned to report the outcome to the alliance when the news leaked out before.

He said the matter had been cleared up with the DAB when he briefed other alliance leaders last month at the Karen headquarters of Manerplaw. He said the DAB had "endorsed and supported" his move and that he had plans to continue such efforts but within the framework of the DAB.

The alliance's stance on the issue is still unclear, as none of its leaders could be contacted so far for comment.

Brang Seng denied reports that the Kachin held several more rounds of talks with the Slorc after October and that he had participated. He said he had put off resumption of negotiations ever since.

He said that three earlier bilateral peace negotiations in 1960, 1970 and 1980 failed because Rangoon insisted on total surrender of the armed ethnic movement.

Brang Seng accused the Burmese junta of intransigence, noting that the last round of talks, held between October 1980 and May 1981 between himself and Burmese strongman Ne Win had only reached a deadlock.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Commentary Hails Regional Security Conference

BK1306094491 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0800 GMT 13 Jun 91

[Station commentary]

[Text] One-hundred and fifty participants from 27 countries in the Asia-Pacific region are currently attending the fifth Asia-Pacific roundtable conference in Kuala Lumpur. Organized by the Institute of Strategic and International Studies or ISIS, the theme of this conference is confidence building and conflict reduction in the Pacific. Speaking at its opening two days ago, Deputy Prime Minister Ghafar Baba said that prospects for peace and prevention of conflicts in the region around the [South] China Sea were now looking bright. Relations between the surrounding states, especially between China and Vietnam and Vietnam and ASEAN have shown a marked improvement. They are all now placing importance on the pursuit of their respective economic growth.

Mr. Ghafar Baba's assessment of the present situation in the region is indeed in a right perspective. Southeast Asia except for the unsettled problem of Cambodia is now experiencing its best ever period without any form of threats from outside. They are now in a position to enjoy the fastest economic growth in comparison with other regions around the world. This situation has come about because of their aversion to conflicting with each other and their desire to concentrate on providing their people with healthier and better standards of living. There is now a greater spirit of togetherness and a willingness to create a network of ties between and among the countries of the Asia-Pacific region.

However, the negative side cannot be ignored. There are conflicting interests and claims [words indistinct] in the countries. Mr. Ghafar Baba urged the contending parties not to resort to the use of force and disrupt the prevailing atmosphere of peace. They should not use any provocative measures that can be construed by others as being of a hostile or aggressive nature. Still, we are reminded of various unresolved territorial claims, including the Spratly and Paracel Islands. Some claims or disputes, if left to persist, can lead to the creation of tension and hinder the peace in the region. As Mr. Ghafar Baba stressed, the parties involved should refrain from taking any action that can lead to bitter conflicts.

ISIS, the organizer of the roundtable, is a constructive body that seeks avenues for the maintenance of peace and the avoidance of conflicts and tension. Being a nongovernmental forum, it serves the useful purpose of guiding government and people on what steps are the most effective in preventing friction among countries. It is an organization that advocates cooperation and healthy competition and promotes the use of compromise instead of conflicts. We can consider ISIS as an important agency in the promotion of the interaction among countries of the region.

Ministries To Rebut GSP Withdrawal Petition

BK1206154091 Kuala Lumpur Radio Malaysia Network in English 1330 GMT 12 Jun 91

[Text] The cabinet has directed three ministries to coordinate efforts in rebutting a petition pressing for the withdrawal of Malaysia's Generalized System of Preference, GSP, privileges.

The Ministries of Human Resources, International Trade and Industry, and Foreign Affairs will be fighting the petition filed by the International Labor Right for Education and Research Front, ILRERF.

Acting Human Resources Minister Datuk Lee Kim Sai says the government will explain to the U.S. Government that the ILRERF petition does not provide the true picture of Malaysia's labor situation. Malaysia will make its defense to retain the GSP privileges based on its two successful cases to (?defy) similar petitions in 1988 and 1990. He told reporters this at his office in Kuala Lumpur.

Datuk Lee, who handled the 1988 GSP petition when he was then labor minister, is acting for Datuk Lim Ah Lek who is currently in Geneva attending the annual International Labor Organization conference.

Datuk Lee advised local unionists to be careful when making statements at international labor conferences. They should know the implications of their remarks. The government provides sufficient platform such as the National Labor Advisory Council, and the Industrial Relations Department for unions leaders to settle labor issues locally. He also advised international labor groupings criticizing Malaysia's labor practices to check the facts thoroughly. Malaysian workers are free to form unions and the government respects their rights.

The cabinet at its meeting today also discussed the trade implications of the GPS petition.

Industries Told To Prepare for Competition

BK1306073491 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0600 GMT 13 Jun 91

[Text] Industries enjoying GSP [Generalized System of Preferences] privileges have been told to prepare themselves to face open competition. Minister of International Trade and Industry Datuk Sri Rafidah Aziz issued this warning today.

Industries, she said, must be more productive and competitive. She asked industrialists to view the GSP and other similar incentives as a bonus that may be withdrawn at any time at the whims and fancies of the host nation. She said this at an award presentation ceremony for industrial excellence in Kuala Lumpur this morning.

Only 11.4 percent of total Malaysian exports valued at 79.19 million ringgit last year enjoyed GSP privileges. Datuk Sri Rafidah added that of the Malaysian exports to the U.S. only 26 percent enjoyed GSP privileges. This had a total value of 23.26 million ringgit.

Defense Minister Remarks on Indonesian Meeting

BK0806145291 Kuala Lumpur Radio Malaysia Network in Malay 1430 GMT 8 Jun 91

[Text] The Malaysian-Indonesian General Border Committee will continue discussions on Indonesia's claim over the islands of Sipadan and Ligitan in Sabah waters during its coming meeting. Defense Minister Datuk Sri Najib Tun Razak said the issue had been discussed during the last meeting of this committee in Jakarta. The minister reiterated Malaysia's position that the two islands belong to it. He said Malaysia also agreed with Indonesia's view that the claim should not affect close relations between the two countries. Malaysia wants the issue to be settled through diplomatic means.

Penang Minister Calls for Increase in Patrols

BK1206072991 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0600 GMT 12 Jun 91

[Text] The Penang government has directed security forces to beef up patrols along the state's coast owing to the sudden influx of illegal immigrants from Indonesia this year. Chief Minister Dr. Koh Tsu Koon said 44 immigrants landed two days ago—the third group so far this year.

More than 100 illegal immigrants from Indonesia had arrived in two previous groups. He told a news conference that the earlier groups were being detained at the Kuala Juru Security Control Unit while the latest batch was being held at Police Headquarters.

He said police seized an M-16 rifle, 51 rounds of ammunition, and 90 knives from the latest group which landed in Tanjung Tokong.

Official Leaves for Bangkok To Resolve Conflict

BK1306085891 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0800 GMT 13 Jun 91

[Text] Foreign Ministry Secretary General Datuk Ahmad Kamil Jaafar left for Bangkok today to resolve the case of the eight Kelantan forestry staff who are under investigation on charges of having illegally entered Thailand and felled timber. Deputy Foreign Minister Datuk Dr. Abdullah Fadzil Che Wan said Datuk Ahmad Kamil would discuss the matter with his counterpart in Thailand. Datuk Ahmad Kamil would submit a report on his discussions with the ministry upon his return tomorrow, he told reporters after opening the foreign service course for junior ASEAN diplomats in Kuala Lumpur.

Datuk Dr. Abdullah said the government was striving to resolve the matter through diplomatic channels. He also said that a meeting of the Malaysia-Thailand General Border Committee, GBC, to be held in Malaysia on 3 July would discuss this matter.

Minister on Joint Discussions by Pacific Nations

BK0606075291 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0600 GMT 6 Jun 91

[Text] Malaysia has urged East Asian countries in the Pacific to begin discussions on collective efforts and issues of common concern. Datuk Sri Rafidah Aziz, minister of international trade and industry, said these countries must realize the benefit of speaking in one cohesive voice and sound out pragmatic strategies. She was speaking at the opening of a pan-Pacific conference in Kuala Lumpur today.

Regarding the East Asia Economic Grouping, EAEG, Datuk Sri Rafidah said it can be seen as a sub-regional effort to contribute to the success of world trade talks. She added that the diamond rim of the region can work for the benefit of the region itself.

Air Force To Obtain Light Maritime Aircraft

BK0806113691 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0800 GMT 8 Jun 91

[Text] The Royal Malaysian Air Force, RMAF, will be equipped with a squadron of light maritime aircraft to beef up its surveillance capabilities. Defense Minister Datuk Sri Mohamed Najib Tun Razak says a budget of about 100 million ringgit has been approved by the government for the procurement of at least four such aircraft under the Sixth Malaysia Plan. The planes to be used for the surveillance of the country's territorial waters will complement the much larger maritime patrol aircraft currently employed by the RMAF for long-range patrols. He was speaking to reporters after presenting service awards to RMAF personnel at the Defense Ministry in Kuala Lumpur.

Cambodia

Troops Attack Government Positions 6-8 Jun

BK1306062491 Phnom Penh SPK in English 0421 GMT 13 Jun 91

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK June 13—About 180 Khmer coalition troops repeatedly attacked government positions in the northwestern and northeastern provinces of Banteay Meanchey, Siem Reap and Stung Treng between June 6 and 8.

In Stung Treng Province, about 30 enemy troops carried out on June 6 sabotageous acts in some areas in Siem Bok District. Three days later, five enemy scouts were sent to reconnoitre a place 25 km northeast of the district town.

In Banteay Meanchey, some 50 polpotists of Division 519 together with two pieces of artillery were deployed on June 6 at a place 17 km southeast of Svay Chek. That day, 60 men of the Pol Pot faction in cooperation with 30 Sonsannians armed with 82 mm guns and anti- tank rocket launchers were also dispatched to an area 15 km east of Svay Chek.

In Siem Reap Province, the Khmer coalition troops on June 7 engaged governement forces at a place 12 km northwest of Chikreng. The following day, the enemy troops fired nine shells of 122 D30 and 85 mm recoilless gun on an area near the district town of Chong Kal.

Hun Sen Receives French Oil Company Delegation

BK1306055691 Phnom Penh SPK in English 0424 GMT 13 Jun 91

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK June 13—Prime Minister Hun Sen received in Phnom Penh Tuesday a delegation of the French "Shell" and "Total" petroleum company led by its deputy director Mr. Bernard Duval.

During the reception, Prime Minister Hun Sen welcomed the French delegations's visit, saying it was a contribution to Cambodia's oil exoloration while the country has achieved good results in this field.

For his part, Mr. Bernard Duval said the objective of his visit to Cambodia is to assess the possibility of investing in oil exploration in the country and helping to train Cambodian technicians in this work. He said he hoped that his company would invest in oil exploration in Cambodia in the near future.

The French delegation will leave Phnom Penh Friday after a six- day visit to Cambodia.

Hun Sen Leaves for Japanese Talks in SRV

BK1306045091 Phnom Penh SPK in English 0427 GMT 13 Jun 91

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK June 13—Prime Minister [P.M.] Hun Sen left here this morning for Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, for talks on the Cambodian issue with Japanese Foreign Minister [F.M.] Taro Nakayama.

P.M. Hun Sen, who was accompanied by Deputy Foreign Minister Sok An, and Deputy Ministers Attached to the

Cabinet Cham Prasit and Uch Kim-an, was seen off on his departure by Tie Banh, deputy prime minister and defence minister, Men Sam-an, president of the Kampuchea Federation of Trade Unions, Nguon Nhel, minister of agriculture, and other senior officials. Vietnamese Charge d'Affaires A.I. Tan Phong was also present.

The Hun Sen-Nakayama meeting is to be held following the government study of a Japanese request last week for F.M. Taro Nakayama to have a meeting in Vietnam with P.M. Hun Sen.

Japan has stepped up humanitarian aid to Phnom Penh and played a growing role in trying to resolve the Cambodian conflict.

The peace plan brokered by the United Nations included formation of the Supreme National Council, which was created in September in Jakarta follwing a meeting in Tokyo between P.M. Hun Sen and tripartite coalition leader Prince Norodom Sihanouk.

Chea Sim Remarks on Peace Process in France

AU1206124291 Paris AFP in English 1152 GMT 12 Jun 91

[Text] Paris, June 12 (AFP)—Cambodian Parliamentary Chairman Chea Sim, on his first visit to the West, has said here that he hoped the international peace talks on Cambodia in Paris would be resumed soon.

Speaking after meeting on Monday with French Foreign Minister Roland Dumas, he said that he had "the firm hope of an early meeting of the Paris conference on Cambodia". The conference, co-chaired by France and Indonesia, was adjourned in August 1989.

Officially ranked number two in the Phnom Penh regime, Mr. Chea Sim is widely regarded as the most influential figure in the government, which France does not recognise. Mr. Chea Sim, who suffers from a mild heart complaint, arrived here on Monday on a private visit for medical treatment.

He had nearly an hour of talks with Mr. Dumas who is co-chairman of the suspended conference. He said their talks concerned "the search for a political solution to the Cambodian problem" and had been "very fruitful". He said he believed recent initiatives by Cambodia's former monarch and nominal leader of the anti-Phnom Penh coalition, Prince Norodom Sihanouk, "could re-launch the Paris conference."

Mr. Chea Sim hoped that the forthcoming meeting on June 24 of the Supreme National Council in Thailand would be "productive". The council is a body on which all four warring factions are represented.

He stressed that agreement had been reached with Prince Sihanouk for an extension of the cease-fire in Cambodia which came into force May 1.

Replying to a question about China, which is the main backer of the Khmer Rouge, the strongest of the three resistance factions fighting the Vietnamese-installed government in Phnom Penh, he said he hoped that relations could be put on a "normal" footing. His country desired "good relations" with China and would do "everything possible" to achieve this.

He also said that his talks here had brought Cambodia and France closer together than before.

The current international Cambodian peace efforts are based on a blueprint drawn up by the Security Council's five permanent members—China, France, Britain, the Soviet Union and the United States—which has been agreed on by the resistance, but to which Phnom Penh has proposed amendments.

Son Sann Gives Interview on Thai Meeting

BK1206134091 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 0430 GMT 12 Jun 91

[Interview with Son Sann, president of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front, prime minister of the National Government of Cambodia, and member of the Supreme National Council; by unidentified station correspondent; dated 8 June—recorded]

[Text] [Correspondent] I am the representative of the Voice of the Khmer [VOK] radio. My respects to Your Excellency Son Sann, president of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front [KPNLF] and member of the Cambodian Supreme National Council [SNC]. I recently learned that Samdech Norodom Sihanouk has agreed to be a member of the SNC replacing His Excellency Chausen Kosak, who has asked to resign, and that the samdech has proposed to convene a SNC meeting in Thailand's Surin Province in the near future. What is your reaction to the statement?

[Son Sann] To show that the samdech has made a great concession, I wish to recall that in Jakarta the samdech had agreed to be named the SNC chairman and accepted Hun Sen as the vice chairman. The samdech added, however, that if he is busy and not able to attend a meeting, he is entitled to appoint a co-vice chairman who, according to the samdech, will take turns to work. This is the solution reached in Jakarta. Nevertheless, the solution has been rejected by some parties, and some people have refused to allow the SNC to proceed. As such, in Bangkok, the samdech offered a solution in which he lowered himself. He said he will not demand or request to be appointed as chairman, and that he only wants to participate as an ordinary member.

As compatriots know, our SNC has 12 members and the samdech's party has two members—Prince Ranariddh and Mr. Chausen Kosal. As Mr. Chausen Kosal is older than the others, he would preside over any meeting. As Chausen Kosal is old and not physically fit to attend meetings, he has stepped down. Taking this opportunity, the samdech said he wanted to participate only as an ordinary member of the SNC and has neither demanded nor accepted to be appointed as chairman. In my opinion, this is the best approach. And as the samdech has made this concession, all of us Cambodians should also make concessions so as to enable the SNC to function and to speed up the implementation of the peace plan of the Perm Five [five permanent members of the UN Security Council] and the organization of general elections in Cambodia, thereby restoring peace to our people in the country [words indistinct]. I hope that all Cambodian parties will agree with Samdech Norodom Sihanouk. As for me, I agreed at the Jakarta meeting to allow the process to progress. As the samdech has made a concession, the process will certainly make headway. We agree totally. At present, Prince Ranariddh agrees—but this is normal as he is Samdech Norodom Sihanouk's son—and so does Khieu Samphan. For me, I have given my agreement at Jakarta. So, I hope that the other party will agree with us all.

[Correspondent] Thank you. What is your view on the proposed SNC meeting in Surin Province?

[Son Sann] This is a very good idea because Thailand has now offered the samdech a residence in Surin and the samdech has asked the four Cambodian parties to meet there this month. This is very good. Now that the Khmer Rouge have agreed, all of us are in agreement. What we are waiting for is Phnom Penh's answer. I am ardently hopeful that Phnom Penh will agree. Because we are all equal without a chairman or vice chairman. We will meet and join forces to work for progress. We should realize that the Perm Five is fed up. The samdech has, however, offered a solution in which he has lowered himself. As such, this is his major concession to get the Cambodians to understand one another and compromise. This is also to encourage the Perm Five to help us effectively.

[Correspondent] Thank you. According to observers, the recently concluded Jakarta meeting did not achieve anything significant. You have agreed, however, to support the extension of the voluntary cease-fire. Why did you agree to continue the cease-fire?

[Son Sann] As compatriots already know, I have on several occasions, through the VOK radio, called on Cambodians to stop killing one another. I want the Cambodians to live in peace always. If the war continues for one more day or even one more hour, Cambodians will be killed. However, if the cease-fire continues, it would be implemented according to the Perm Five framework. Because I do not want to see more Cambodians killed, suffer, or become widows or orphans, I advocated this long ago. So when the cease-fire was called, I agreed with it straightaway in the hope that all compatriots would stop fighting. Anyway, if Cambodians want to stop fighting for good, they should accept the Perm Five solution completely. For this reason, I wish to remind all compatriots—no party is excepted—to understand that the Perm Five is already fed up. As I said earlier, the samdech's new solution has been already accepted by the three parties, except the Phnom Penh party. They are expected to accept that too, and I hope it will be so. The Perm Five, the cochairmen, the ASEAN states, and the whole world will agree to join forces to help us. This is important. Therefore, if we want peace for our people and country, we should agree to the new solution of Samdech Norodom Sihanouk. When the samdech convenes the meeting in Surin, all of us should come and work with him and help make his task a success. This is to show that Cambodians can work together to achieve peace for Cambodia under Samdech Norodom Sihanouk's leadership.

[Correspondent] Thank you. I know that the Cambodians in the coutry and overseas earnestly desire a peaceful settlement, in particular based on the Perm Five or UN peace plan. Can you say why the UN peace plan has not been effected as Cambodians have hoped?

[Son Sann] I see that most Cambodians, including all the Cambodian parties, are probably aware of this and will not continue to oppose this. I do not want to say anything affecting any party. I have so far seen, however, that all the parties have different and contradicting ideas. This party wants this, but the other says no; that party wants that, but the other says it is no good. For instance, at the recent Jakarta meeting, a party proposed amendments to the Perm Five plan [words indistinct], but other amendments could not be accepted because this would seriously affect the Perm Five's overall solution. For this reason, I ask all parties without exception to show that Cambodians—the four Cambodian parties—can compromise under the leadership of Samdech Norodom Sihanouk [words indistinct]. We should not demand amendments to benefit our party [words indistinct]. We should set that aside and do our best to reconcile with one another so as to encourage the Perm Five to help us settle the Cambodian problem, thereby allowing Cambodia to regain peace, for Vietnam to withdraw, Cambodians to lay down their arms, and our compatriots to vote in free elections without coercion. This is the Perm Five's most comprehensive solution and should not be altered. As such, we should agree, so that they will be able to help us. They would like to help us but we have refused their aid. So this time I call on all the compatriots to understand and agree to allow them to help us.

I wish to point out that the Perm Five's plan has clearly defined that no party we like or oppose, will be allowed to seize power through the force of arms. The Perm Five have negotiated and completely agreed on this. They will not allow power to be seized. Whoever wants to use force, as in the Persian Gulf case, will not be tolerated. This is the same for us. All Perm Five members, and not one or two, have already negotiated and agreed to organize the general elections to allow the people to decide justly, and to prevent those who are notorious from using arms to retake power. Compatriots, please, understand this. We should allow the Perm Five to help us to not only organize the elections to choose the country's leadership but to reconstruct Cambodia as well. Japan, a major country, looks forward to helping us and has asked for a strong international peacekeeping force to safeguard peace for us, to supervise the withdrawal of Vietnamese forces, and to verify the disarmament of all Cambodian forces. We should lay down our arms completely. If this is partially done and if the four parties are still armed, they will certainly fight again later. So I plead with all compatriots, to accept the solution worked out for us by the United Nations and the Perm Five and to promote all UN initiatives at the Surin meeting, so as to restore an early peace to the Cambodian people.

[Correspondent] Thank you. I and other observers have noticed at the recent Jakarta meeting, that the parties of Hun Sen, Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, and the KPNLF headed by you, seem to have created a favorable atmosphere there. After the meeting, Samdech Norodom Sihanouk announced that he would go to Phnom Penh this November. Do you intend to go to Phnom Penh too?

[Son Sann] Actually, I have pondered about our compatriots for many years since I left Phnom Penh in 1974. However, I will go there only if the Perm Five's framework document is effectively implemented. At present, I see the plan as not being correctly effected. So I will wait until the SNC function and the Perm Five are ready to help us do so. I stress that I will go only if I am certain that peace will come, thanks to the help of the United Nations, the Perm Five, the major ASEAN states, and the cochairmen. If I see that it is promising and that no party is creating any obstacles, then I will go. If compatriots see me going, peace is at hand.

[Correspondent] On behalf of the radio's listeners, I would like to thank Your Excellency for the explanation given to our clergy and compatriots. Thank you.

Sihanouk Reaffirms Plan To Visit Phnom Penh

BK1306054691 Hong Kong AFP in English 0522 GMT 13 Jun 91

[Excerpt] Bangkok, June 13 (AFP)—Cambodian resistance leader Prince Norodom Sihanouk repeated Thursday that he had decided to visit Phnom Penh in a bid to mediate between Cambodia's warring parties.

"My role involves continued consultations with all the factions, as part of the process of national reconciliation," the prince, currently in Beijing, said in a statement released by his office here.

He repeated his determination—first announced earlier this month—to serve as "a bridge" between Phnom Penh's Vietnamese- installed government and the resistance coalition dominated by the Beijing-backed Khmer Rouge.

In order to hold consultations with Cambodian Premier Hun Sen "I have to visit Phnom Penh," said Prince Sihanouk, whose followers form one of two non-communist guerrilla factions allied to the Khmer Rouge.

The Khmer Rouge, whose brutal rule of Cambodia ended 12 years ago with a Vietnamese invasion, appears to be wary of the prince's intended trip to Phnom Penh in November. It fears that the 68- year-old prince, still widely respected internationally and believed to command a substantial following at home, might switch alliances.

In Beijing, Vietnam's Ambassador to China, Dang Nghiem Hoanh, in an unprecedented gesture, attended a reception hosted by Prince Sihanouk earlier this week.

Prince Sihanouk has said he would travel to Phnom Penh for two months at the invitation of Mr. Hun Sen. He has also invited the premier to visit him in [words indistinct] at his residence in the North Korean capital Pyongyang. [passage omitted]

Indonesia

Suharto Warns of Declining IGGI Aid

BK1306123891 Jakarta ANTARA in English 1136 GMT 13 Jun 91

[Text] Jakarta, June 13 (OANA-ANTARA)—President Suharto stated here Thursday, Indonesia should be prepared to face declining bilateral assistance from donor countries grouping in the Inter-Governmental Group on Indonesia (IGGI), as this year's total bilateral assistance had decreased from 1.97 billion U.S. dollars in 1990 to "only" 1.89 billion U.S. dollars.

The head of state made the statement during a meeting with Finance Minister J.B. Sumarlin, who reported results of the 34th IGGI meeting in The Hague on June 11-13. On that occasion, Minister Sumarlin was accompanied by Minister/State Secretary Murdiono and Junior Minister for National Development Planning/Vice Chairman of the National Development Planning Board (Bappenas) B.S. Muljana.

IGGI, consisting of a number of donor countries and international financial institutions, agreed to extend an aid package totalling 4.755 billion U.S. dollars for the current fiscal year of 1991/92. The aid consists of bilateral assistance amounting to 1.891 billion U.S. dollars and multilateral loans of 2.863 billion U.S. dollars.

During the IGGI meeting, Indonesia also received a loan of 500 million U.S. dollars outside the framework of IGGI aid from Japan's export-import bank, which will be used to support small-and medium-scale businesses.

The Japanese loan, Sumarlin said, was a two-step loan in nature, under which the loan will be given to the Indonesian Government, which would in turn channel the fund to the concerned businesses.

Sumarlin further said that 1.0 billion U.S. dollars of this year's IGGI total aid was fast disbursing assistance (FDA).

Under such a scheme, he went on, Japan will provide 500 million U.S. dollars, while the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) earmark 250 million U.S. dollars respectively.

Although the bilateral assistance for the current fiscal year decreases, he said, loans from international financial institutions like the World Bank, and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) increased from 2.54 billion U.S. dollars in 1990 to 2.863 billion U.S. dollars.

"We should be prepared to face the possibility of decreasing bilateral assistance," President Suharto was quoted as saying by Minister Sumarlin.

According to Sumarlin, the drop in bilateral assistance was mainly caused by the fact that most of the donor countries had to shift their assistance to other countries, particularly those of Eastern Europe.

Sumarlin said that the bilateral assistance was derived from Japan (1.3 billion U.S. dollars), the United States (133.2 million U.S. dollars) and France (670 million francs), while multilateral aid was received from the World Bank (1.6 billion U.S. dollars), ADB (1.1 billion U.S. dollars) and other international organizations like UNDP [United Nations Development Program] and ILO [International Labor Office] totalling 70.5 million U.S. dollars.

Explaining on the form of the Fast Disbursing Assistance (FDA), Minister Sumarlin said that this kind of assistance was previously known as a special assistance.

This assistance, he went on, will be used to redress the current account deficit.

During the meeting with the three ministers, President Suharto also stated that Indonesia will continue to seek self-reliance in financing development projects.

The aid commitment of 4.755 billion U.S. dollars given by the IGGI members for this year is bigger compared with 4.50 billion U.S. dollars given for 1990/91.

Indonesia still utilizes the preparedness of other countries to provide assistance for its development activities which is aimed at stepping up the ability to finance national development, Sumarlin said, quoting the president.

The finance minister said the Guidelines of State Policy (GBHN) underline that foreign aid functions only as complement to the available potential in the country.

The president stated the preparedness of other countries and international institutions to extend aid to Indonesia is a valuable asset as it indicates their confidence in the steps Indonesia has taken so far.

In reply to a question about IGGI's hope that the Indonesian Government will monitor loans from private sources abroad to Indonesia, Sumarlin said Bank Indonesia continues to monitor the inflow of foreign aid.

Private companies in Indonesia should be careful in receiving off-shore loans, Sumarlin asserted, adding that they should avoid loans with heavy conditions.

IGGI's aid to Indonesia for the 1991/92 fiscal year will be used to finance various development projects such as the development of 75,000 hectares of rubber planations in South Kalimantan and East Kalimantan, the provision of water sources for drinking water in Surabaya and the prevention of floods in Jakarta, he said.

The loans from IGGI will also be used to fund the expansion of a thermal power station in Suralaya (West Java), a gas fuelled power station in Padang (West Java), a diesel power station in Samarinda, and the development of Syah Kuala University in Aceh.

Inter-Governmental Group Promises $4.75 Billion

BK1306112191 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0846 GMT 13 Jun 91

[Text] The Hague, Jun 13 (ANTARA)—The two-day 34th meeting of the Inter-Governmental Group on Indonesia (IGGI) ended here Wednesday with an agreement to extend 4.75 billion U.S. dollars worth of assistance to Indonesia for the fiscal 1991-92, up over the previous year's aid of 4.5 billion U.S. dollars.

"Nearly one billion U.S. dollars of the total amount will be made available in the form of fast-disbursing assistance," Dutch Development Cooperation Minister Jan Pronk, chairman of the IGGI, said.

Pronk said IGGI members had also agreed to extend another 500 million U.S. dollars in the form of fast-disbursing assistance to be given outside the framework of IGGI.

The IGGI chairman said the 500 million U.S. dollars in the form of untied assistance would come from the Japanese Export-Import Bank.

He said IGGI members had hinted that they would help secure the smooth disbursment of the assistance as part of their efforts to meet Indonesia's financial necessity.

IGGI members praised Indonesia's balanced growth strategy, with the private sector acting as the engine of economic growth, he said. "This has boosted the rapid development of non-oil/gas exports and investment and the growth of economy, which has at the same time helped eradicate proverty," he said.

Coordinating Minister for Economy, Finance, and Industry Radius Prawiro at the head of the Indonesian delegation to the meeting said the fast-disbursing assistance was badly needed by Indonesia to support its balance of payments.

Radius said that Indonesia's balance of payments for the fiscal 1991-92 was based on oil price of 19 U.S. dollars a barrel because at the moment of calculating oil price, a barrel of oil was priced 21 U.S. dollars.

"Although the Indonesian Government was at that time able to set a conservative price of 19 U.S. dollars for its oil, lower than oil prices on the world market, oil prices dropped drastically even below 19 U.S. dollars a barrel," he said.

He cited the drop in oil prices as the main reason for the rise in this fiscal year's current transaction deficit.

The deficit would increase to 4.3 billion U.S. dollars in the fiscal 1991-92, compared to 3.8 billion U.S. dollars in the fiscal 1990-91, he said.

The 34th IGGI session was attended by delegates from all the IGGI members, Australia, Austria, Belgium, the Netherlands, Germany, Great Britain, the United States, France, Switzerland, Italy, Japan, Spain, New Zealand, and Canada as well as Indonesia as the recipient country.

The Indonesian delegation had Bappenas [National Development Planning Board] Chairman Saleh Afiff, Bank Indonesia Governor Adrianus Mooy, and government advisor Professor Wijojo Nitisastro as members.

The IMF, the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank, and the UNDP were also presented in the session.

Delegates from Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden also attended as observers.

The 33d IGGI session last year approved an aid of 4.5 billion U.S. dollars for Indonesia, with a special assistance of 1.28 billion U.S. dollars, part of which was included in the 4.5 billion U.S. dollar figure.

The amount of special assistance decreased from 1.86 billion U.S. dollars in 1989-90 to 1.28 billion U.S. dollars in 1990-91.

The 35th IGGI session, according to Pronk, will be held in The Hague from June 16 to 17, 1992.

Japan To Cooperate in Natural Gas Project

BK1306122091 Jakarta ANTARA in English 1121 GMT 13 Jun 91

[Text] Tokyo, June 13 (OANA-ANTARA)—Nissho Iwai of Japan has agreed to cooperate with Indonesia's state-owned oil firm Pertamina in the development of the biggest Southeast Asian natural gas project near Natuna Island, some 200 km north west of Kalimantan.

According the Japanese company, the area keeps about one trillion cubic metres of natural gas reserves, and about 10 billion U.S. dollars will be needed to finance the project.

Nissho Iwai is one of LNG [Liquified Natural Gas] importing companies in Japan which sells its goods to local gas and electricity firms.

Similar project to produce natural gas in Natuna was done in 1973 but it faced a technical problem because about 70 percent of Natuna's gas contained carbon dioxide, it said.

Exxon, one the world's major oil companies, has succeeded in extracting the carbon dioxide content from natural gas so that it provides a chance to develop further the natural gas reserves.

Exxon will take part in the exploitation operation after the construction of the project in Natuna is completed.

The project will include placement work of a 2,000-km submarine pipe which would connect Natuna Island and Sumatra.

The construction work of the project are expected to start in 1993 or 1994 and its commercial production in late 1990 decade.

The Natuna gas well is estimated to produce 20 to 30 million tons of natural gas annually for a span of 20 years.

Journalists Urge More Press Freedom

BK1206160591 Hong Kong AFP in English 0809 GMT 12 Jun 91

[Text] Jakarta, June 12 (AFP)—Senior Indonesian journalists called for greater freedom of the press Wednesday and said that some of the government's power to control the industry should be transferred to the courts.

In a parliamentary hearing, chief editors of prominent newspapers and magazines questioned the government's licensing procedures, which enable it to revoke the publishing permits of press companies.

"We are working in an atmosphere of fear," said Yousli Syah of MEDIA INDONESIA, a daily which has already received a strong warning for an editorial the government found offensive to President Suharto.

"There has to be a balance between the position of the government and the press," Mr. Syah said, adding that the power to revoke publishing licenses—which now rests with the information minister—should be abolished.

Most of the editors suggested that this power be transferred to the courts, thus giving journalists a forum to defend themselves.

Other editors suggested that any action against the press should be aimed at the journalists responsible for offending articles and not their employers, upon whom dozens or even hundreds of other people depend for their livelihood.

Some editors questioned the practice of "phone calls" from the government or the military requesting that certain stories not be printed.

"These calls, which are constant, are killing the (press) people," said Ahmad Adirsyah of MERDEKA daily.

Ani Idrus of the WASPADA daily questioned military restrictions on running accurate stories about fighting between the military and the Aceh Merdeka, separatist rebels in northern Sumatra.

"This is affecting our credibility as a newspaper since we are only publishing one side of the story," she said, adding that military press conferences on the issue were usually used to dictate what to print.

The meeting between the editors and the MPs followed a call by parliament Deputy Speaker Sukardi last month for the government to ease its grip on the press in line with growing sentiment favoring political openness.

Information Minister Harmoko, who holds the power to revoke the license of a newspaper, has defended the system and other control mechanisms, saying that without them "anarchy will prevail."

There is no formal press censorship in Indonesia, but journalists have to be careful on what they print or their company could lose its publishing permit.

"It's not that we want to be irresponsible or stir up trouble. But we want to know the limits of responsibility," said Gunawan Muhamad of TEMPO newsweekly.

"And who is to make the judgement? Is it the government? Is the government's decision always right?" he asked.

The last time the government used its power to revoke a press license was in October against the MONITOR tabloid after the magazine ran a popularity poll which put the Prophet Mohammad in 11th place, just behind its Chief Editor Arswendo Atmowiloto.

The poll angered Moslem groups in Indonesia, the world's most populous Moslem nation, and Mr. Arswendo, a Roman Catholic, was jailed by a court for five years on charges of blasphemy.

UDT Seeks Support of Portuguese Government

LD1206093291 Lisbon RDP Commercial Radio Network in Portuguese 2300 GMT 11 Jun 91

[Excerpt] The Democratic Union of Timor [UDT] has addressed a letter to the assembly of the republic as well as to other sovereign organs. The letter asks for support from the Portuguese Government for a (?headquarters) for the Nationalist Convergence of East Timor. Francisco Jose Barata reports:

[Barata] The UDT bases its proposals on six points in a document submitted today to the assembly of the republic. In the document, the UDT refers to the recognition of Portugal as the administrative power and says that the question of Timor entails the reinforcement of the Nationalist Convergence of East Timor, reinforcement which applies to the granting of political and diplomatic support for the movement. [passage omitted]

Laos

Aid Materials Presented to 'Misled' Families

BK1206152091 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1200 GMT 11 Jun 91

[Text] Dr. Khamliang Phonsena, minister of social welfare and war veterans and president of the Red Cross Society of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, on 10 June handed over aid materials to 50 families of 250 people formerly misled by the enemy and later returned to Saisomboun District of Vientiane Province. The aid materials included over 25 tons of rice, 7,500 liters of fuel oil, a 217,500 kip cash to be used for puchasing crop seeds such as rice and corn, and other essential commodities worth over 9 million kip. The presentation of the aid materials was made through the representatives of the district's grass-root development unit.

PASASON Article Notes Unemployment Problem

BK1206104191 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0500 GMT 11 Jun 91

[Undated PASASON Article: "Solve the Student's Unemployment Problem"]

[Text] Over 3,000 senior high school graduates from 1989-90 academic years are jobless. The situation may be worse if the number graduating in the 1990-91 academic year does not decline. What should be done to solve this problem? Cadres in educational circles have recommended vocational education to produce skilled workers. The vocational education system is a long-term solution and must be designed to find jobs for unemployed students. After graduating from secondary schools or senior high schools, students can enroll in vocational training schools where they will be trained as specialized cadres and skilled workers to serve national economic sectors.

Some people say graduates from primary and intermediate vocational schools cannot find jobs or work effectively. Let us see if such statements are true. Take the Thaphakhoun Agriculture School under the jurisdiction of the Agriculture Service of Bolikhamsai Province as an example. Although the school was established three years ago, it still lacks a curriculum to guide its teaching and training of students. Some vocational schools do not offer classes on a regular basis and lack a sense of responsibility. These graduates will certainly be jobless because they do not possess the educational qualifications required by the labor market.

Vocational schools providing effective knowledge and skills for students in line with the demands of the labor market can help solve the unemployment problem. However, the responsibility should not be left for the state alone to shoulder. The private sector is capable of providing vocational education and skills, and must be encouraged to invest in operating vocational training schools and producing skilled workers for society. Students must pay attention to their studies and be eager to find jobs. They must refrain from wasting time and becoming a burden to society. Parents must play an active role in educating and guiding their children, and not pass this responsibility completely to teachers, as in the past.

Youths Detained in Bangkok Arrive in Savannakhet

BK1306015291 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 13 Jun 91

[Text] Thirty Lao youths who had been deceived into going to Bangkok, Thailand, to sell their labor returned to Savannakhet Province on the morning of 10 June with the assistance of the Lao Embassy in Bangkok and Thai authorities. Of the 30 Lao youths—eight boys and 22 girls, the youngest is 14 years old and the oldest 25 years old. Fifteen of them are the natives of Savannakhet Province while the rest came from Saravane Province. Most of them are from Songkhon and Champhon Districts in Savannakhet Province and from Lakhonpheng and Vapi Districts in Saravane Province. They told our authorities that they had been deceived by some bad Lao and Thai elements to go to work in Bangkok. They said they received no pay for their work. They were consequently arrested by Thai authorities as illegal immigrants and detained for some time.

It has been reported that another group of 21 Lao youths are still being detained in Thailand on similar charges.

Philippines

Joint DPRK Agreement To Establish Ties

OW1306074391 Tokyo KYODO in English 0535 GMT 13 Jun 91

[Text] Manila, June 13 KYODO—The Philippines and North Korea declared Thursday they will establish diplomatic ties within the year.

A joint statement said the two countries "have agreed to take steps towards establishing diplomatic relations and exchanging diplomatic representatives at the ambassadorial level between the two countries at the earliest possible date in 1991."

Philippine Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus and Kim Tal-hyon, North Korea's deputy prime minister, issued the statement after meeting for some 30 minutes at the Philippine Foreign Office.

It also said the two officials agreed the countries should conclude a bilateral trade and cooperation pact.

Kim is heading a nine-member delegation, the first by a North Korean official mission since the Korean peninsula was divided 46 years ago and the Philippines' participation in the 1950-1953 Korean War.

On Tuesday, Kim met with President Corazon Aquino and assured her that North Korea is not supporting communist rebels fighting to topple her government.

Secret documents leaked by military sources last year said the Communist Party of the Philippines and its military arm, the New People's Army, had established ties with Pyongyang's ruling Korean Workers Party.

The documents said North Korea promised to provide arms to the Philippine communists.

A high-level Philippine foreign office official said he did not expect South Korea to criticize Manila's agreement with Pyongyang.

"Other ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) [countries] have diplomatic relations with North Korea," said the official, who requested anonymity.

ASEAN is comprised of Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand.

"It (the agreement to establish ties) is a victory for the Philippines and North Korea," the official added.

Jose de Venecia, chairman of the House of Representatives Foreign Affairs Committee, meanwhile called on ASEAN, Japan and the United States "to launch a creative and constructive response to North Korea's break from 46 years of isolation, as with its United Nations entry it rejoins the world's family of nations."

"We will support the entry of North Korea in the United Nations," said Miguel Romero, vice chairman of the House Committee on Foreign Affairs.

"This will not unduly affect our relations with South Korea because we have supported also their effort to join the UN," Romero said, adding that this will hasten reunification moves.

Romero said Pyongyang is interested in developing ties with Manila because it sees the Philippines as a good source of sugar, which it is now getting from Cuba.

In return, North Korean officials have offered to help renovate Manila Harbor, he said.

'Different Kind' of Compensation for Bases Seen

HK1306051391 Quezon City MALAYA in English 13 Jun 91 p 2

[By Marie Rose Feliciano]

[Text] Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus yesterday said the Philippines was willing to consider a "different kind" of compensation for the withdrawal period for U.S. military facilities and personnel.

Malacanang, for the past few days, has been floating the idea of a one-year withdrawal period for the Americans on top of the seven-year extension for the bases.

This idea was sounded out by President Aquino to some senators who went to Malacanang last week for a briefing on the bases.

"(We're) willing to consider (a) different kind of compensation during the withdrawal," Manglapus, who attended the Vin d' Honneur at Malacanang's ceremonial hall, said.

He did not explain what this "different kind" of compensation means, if it would mainly be comprised of the unquantifiables, excess military supplies or of the cash component.

The Philippines is demanding for an $825-million compensation package covering a seven-year extension period for the bases. The compensation issue had been resolved already except for the duration period. The Americans want a withdrawal period exclusive of the seven years.

Manglapus also did not say how the Mt. Pinatubo eruption would affect the ongoing bases negotiations.

He jestingly said that with the speed by which the Americans moved out of Clark Air Base, there seemed to be no reason why they should ask for a longer phaseout period.

Manglapus said the U.S. personnel moved out "not even one day, (but only) three hours."

U.S. personnel, numbering 17,000, moved out of Clark Monday due to Mt. Pinatubo's abnormal activities.

Legislator on Asian Nations' Support

HK1306073991 Manila DIYARYO FILIPINO in Tagalog 13 Jun 91 p 2

[By Fidel Jimenez]

[Text] Representative Lorna Verano-Yap (LP [Liberal Party], Pasay) yesterday critized some Asian nations which support the retention of U.S. military bases in the Philippines.

She challenged these nations to host the bases instead of pressuring our government to retain them.

This was the reaction of Verano-Yap to the statement by the heads of state of Japan, Singapore, and Indonesia that the retention of the U.S. bases is good for the region.

"It is so easy for other Asian leaders to tell us to retain the bases in the country because they are not the ones bothered by the problems that go with it," the legislator pointed out.

"I just do not know what the reaction of the conservative Muslims in Indonesia and Singapore would be if their culture is exposed to the culture of the Americans if the bases are brought to their country.

"Anyway, Japan, Indonesia, and Singapore want to retain the bases in Asia, so it might be better to give these AIDS carriers to them," she added.

Verano-Yap stressed that according to the Constitution, the Philippines should remain free from any nuclear arms, "so the bases have to be dismantled."

According to her, it is not true that the bases need be retained to maintain security in the Asian region.

"Like Senator Osamu Yatabe of Japan said, the Cold War has ended, meaning the threat to the security of the region has also ended and retaining the U.S. bases in Asia is of no use," said the legislator.

She pointed out that other members of ASEAN should refrain from giving an opinion regarding the retention of the bases, especially as we are now in the critical stage of completing the treaty.

"If they are our friends, they should not interfere in the bargaining power of the RP [Republic of the Philippines] negotiating panel," said Verano-Yap. "It is better that they endorse the transfer of the bases to their own country."

She added that Asia would be endangered more if we retained the U.S. bases "because this would only invite attacks from other nations."

Yesterday former Senator Arturo Tolentino favored an additional year to the seven-year phaseout period given by the government for retaining the American bases.

Tolentino said this in relation to the country's continuous change of opinion regarding the time frame for the retention of the U.S. facilities after September 16, 1991.

"Maybe giving them a year is already sufficient," he said. The U.S. has requested an extension of 10-12 years in exchange for the $525 million yearly compensation.

But the government is insisting to give them only seven years including the phaseout period for a yearly compensation of $825 million. The $400 million is hard cash and the remaining $425 million in the form of different kinds of assisstance.

Tolentino stressed that the U.S. can remove their facilities in the country within 24 hours if they want to, but we should give them an additional year to completely leave the country.

Clark Air Base Calls Troops To Stop Looters

HK1206015191 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in Tagalog 0100 GMT 12 Jun 91

[Text] Filipino police and military reinforcement have been called to Clark Air Base in Angeles City after groups of looters carrying hammers and screwdrivers were sighted near the base. The groups are reportedly preparing to enter the U.S. base after U.S. servicemen left Clark last Monday. According to Clark Air Base command officials, additional police and Army troopers have been requested to support the joint Filipino-U.S. security force guarding the deserted Clark Air Base against the groups of looters who are outside Clark's perimeter waiting for an opportunity to enter the military base. It was reported that they were also carrying ladders, and had vans.

Column on Message of Aquino Freedom Day Speech

HK1306044591 Manila THE CHRONICLE in English 13 Jun 91 pp 1, 9

[From the "Analysis" column by Amando Doronila: "Democracy and Strong Leader Are Compatible"]

[Text] President Aquino stressed as one of the themes of her Independence Day speech yesterday the need for a new leadership in 1992 that will be committed to democracy. She repeated the theme of her speech at the Center of Christian-Muslim Democracy four days ago in which she said that "political liberty of the people is a necessary precondition to economic development. Without that political liberty, the fruits of economic development will accrue only to a few and will not benefit many."

With these speeches, the President has joined the debate over the issue whether a democratic or an authoritarian system can respond more effectively to the challenge of economic development and political stability.

The speeches are apparently her reaction to a rising clamor for a "strongman" to lead the country after 1992 and the reintroduction of authoritarianism.

The President appears to be disturbed by the fact that the clamor for a strong man comes not only from old regime politicians who had benefitted economically from the Marcos authoritarian rule but also from the beneficiaries themselves of a democratic system—those who use the guarantees of the free press to argue for the return of authoritarianism.

Before I ask you to examine with me the real issues of this "strongman" debate, I wish to state that false issues have been raised, leading to confusion. Secondly, I wish to digress briefly to explain why this issue has gained currency and why President Aquino has joined the debate, although her participation, I must confess, has done little to define the issues or enhance the intellectual level of the debate.

The puzzling aspect of this debate is that the clamor for the return to authoritarianism comes just five years after the collapse of the ignominious Marcos authoritarian rule—the Philippines' first failed experiment with such a system. It has pounced upon our consciousness while wounds inflicted on the national psyche and the economy by the colossal plunder and abuses of authority by the past regime are still fresh. It is as though, after having been raped, we had quickly erased the trauma from our minds and were beginning to prepare ourselves for another experience, hoping that it might be more gentle, enjoyable and full of tenderness next time around.

So this revival for the fascination over "strongmen" requires an explanation.

The emphatic response on behalf of the democratic system is understandable. The clamor for a strong leadership implicity hits a vulnerable spot. It calls attention to the weak presidency—a hallmark of her administration.

Her response on behalf of the democratic system is therefore a defensive reaction. It is an apology for her own leadership style, which through both commission and default has reduced the once mighty office of the presidency—the fount of executive powers and opportunities for political initiatives—into a mere constitutional facade of power with very little substance.

President Aquino, no doubt, has a sense of history and she is fond of saying that one of her enduring achievements is the restoration of democracy. But the reason why there is such a growing clamor for strong man rule is that President Aquino has failed to make democracy and its institutions strong. If former President Marcos made authoritarianism look bad, Mrs. Aquino has made democracy look ineffectual and inept.

It is precisely because the residual powers of the Philippine democratic presidency have not been utilized to produce initiatives for development that there are voices calling for a return to authoritarianism.

The call for the return to authoritarianism has been fueled by the fact that the post-Marcos democratic government has failed to accelerate economic growth and has presided over an economic decline after a brief interval of economic recovery. It finds facile support from arguments making a relationship between authoritarian rule and high economic growth of several NIC (Newly Industrializing Countries). This argument is seductive, but as we shall see in another section of this essay, this relationship is not sufficient to establish cause and effect.

The other important factor that produced the President's response is that among those who are calling for strong leadership are former Marcos cronies who have recovered much of thei sequestered assets and are making a credible bid to return to political power and influence.

They have used the democratic system to regain their disputed assets and are making fun of the weakness of the government in at least defending the State's claim to these assets and in recovering the stolen wealth.

These are the people apparently referred to by President Aquino when she said that "without political liberty, the fruits of economic development will accrue only to a few and will not benefit many." She is clearly referring to the monopolistic environment in which such people as Eduardo Cojuangco and Roberto Benedicto expanded their business interests. But the trouble is that they are precisely using the restoration of political liberty to regain assets they accumulated under a regime that curtailed politcal liberty.

In a monopoly, entrepreneurs favored by the protection of State power face no competition. They compete only with themselves. The market forces do not exist in their monopoly enclaves. Because of this reason, it defies logic why Mr. Cojuangco, for example, can have the gumption to appear in public assemblies and tell us that we need a leadership tht has business and management experience and that can provide strong leadership initiatives. We must be told what in their vocabulary "strong leadership" means.

This approach has offended at least businessmen who want to compete in a fair and free economic environment. These businessmen speak a different language from Mr. Cojuangco—while he speaks from a monopolistic context, others are thinking of fair competition.

The political challenge mounted by the cronies such as Mr. Cojuangco could be enough to create concern in the Aquino government that, if they returned to power, all those policies dismantling the monopolies and opening up the economy to freer competition would be reversed. This is a legitimate concern of the president, as well as of many other businessmen.

But by joining the debate to defend her legacy of restoring democracy from being eroded. President Aquino, as well as those well-meaning advocates of strongman rule or benevolent dictator in the style of Lee Kuan Yew of Singapore or of a Charles de Gaulle, has oversimplified the issues. In President Aquino's view, the issue is the choice between a democratic and authoritarian system. This is polarizing the debate into a false issue; this either-or approach leads to an intellectual cul de sac.

The real issue, upon which productive and stimulating discussion can be conducted, is. Can a democratic system produce a strong political leadership that can respond effectively to the challenge of economic development. Or put another way: Is democracy compatible with strong leadership. The answer is yes, and this will be argued in the next article.

International Reserves Post High Record

HK1306045191 Manila THE CHRONICLE in English 13 Jun 91 pp 1, 9

[Text] The government's gross international reserves (GIR) level as of June 7 stood at $3.342 billion, the highest-ever recorded since 1949, Central Bank Governor Jose L. Cuisia Jr. said.

The GIR is the government's total holdings of foreign exchange, gold, foreign investments and special drawing rights.

The commercial banking system normally has higher reserves level than the government. As of April, the banks had close to $3.5 billion.

The favorable international-reserves position is expected to be further boosted by the disbursement this month of $38 million, the second disbursement from the International Monetary Fund's standby facility, and $26 million as the second tranche of the $83-million Japan Export Import Bank portion of the $358-million Asean-Japan Development Fund.

Cuisia is optimistic that the reserves position could also be beefed up by foreign-exchange savings the country will generate with the opening of the fourth round of rescheduling talks with the Philippines' 14 creditor-governments known as the Paris Club. The talks will open in Paris on June 18.

The country earlier estimated savings of $732 million to $1.3 billion in foreign exchange, which should have gone to the creditors in the form of debt payments from 1991-92.

The $3.342-billion GIR level can cover 2.3 months' worth of goods and services.

This is close to the $3.5-billion GIR level under the short-term economic stabilization program with the IMF, which will cover 2.5 months' worth of imports.

The GIR is a key economic barometer of the country's reserves position. It also indicates how much the government has with which to defend the peso against speculative attacks.

A low reserves position triggers speculative attacks against the peso because a perception of foreign-exchange shortage prompts people to invest more in hard currencies like the U.S. dollars.

The improved GIR position could be attributed in part to an earlier requirement of the Central Bank for the banking system to maintain a balanced foreign-exchange situation.

Abadia Gives Honasan 2 Weeks To Initiate Talks

HK1306042791 Quezon City MALAYA in English 13 Jun 91 p 2

[By Chit Estella]

[Text] Gen. Lisandro Abadia, Armed Forces chief of staff, said yesterday he was giving ex-Lt. Col. Gregorio Honasan and his cohort two more weeks to work out a dialog with the government.

He warned that Honasan's failure to heed his latest ultimatum would mean the resumption of an intensified search for the rebel soldiers. The AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] chief said operations against rebels are going on but these are not as relentless as they should be because of the government's intention to persuade them to sit down and talk.

Explaining why the AFP is pursuing a dialog with Honasan despite its own pronouncements that the rebels have ceased to be a serious threat, Abadia said, "They (rebels) remain a threat in the minds of investors." He added that the presence of uncaptured mutineers must be resolved by the AFP.

Abadia earlier said feelers have been sent by Honasan's camp for talks with the government. But the latter denied these after several presidential candidates began claiming they, too, have been engaged in surrender talks with the rebel soldiers.

Abadia also said Maj. Gen. Alexander Aguirre, retired vice chief of staff, must include Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos and other government officials in his complaint if he wanted to make good his threat to bring his case to the Supreme Court.

Abadia said it was the Department of National Defense headed by Ramos which recommended Aguirre's termination.

Mindanao Church Group Complains of Violations

HK1306083991 Davao City THE MINDANAO DAILY MIRROR in English 6 Jun 91 p 6

[Text] Davao City—Alarmed with the worsening human rights condition in Mindanao area the promotion of Church People's Rights (PCPR)—Mindanao worries about the massive evacuation phenomenon all throughout Mindanao.

In a consultation held in this city participated in by pastors, sisters, priests, and lay ministers all over Mindanao, participants discussed and realized the increasing number of evacuees; internal refugees or Filipinos becoming refugees in their own land due to intensifying armed conflict.

PCPR knew thru regional reports that despite promises and well-articulated Bill of Rights, people mostly in the countrysides experience the brutal effect of Total War Policy, the same policy supported by the president when she unleashed the "sword of war" one year after she became president.

"As a result of the said policy, Human Rights violation continues to increase into incredible number. Black propaganda, presenting civilians as surrenderees after they were forced to disappearances [as published], forced recruitment to Alsa Masa [People's Uprising] and (CAFGU [Citizen's Armed Forces Geographical Units] are very evident in Maco and Agusan del Sur making it an official policy and regulation of the present set-up" PCPR said.

PCPR, an ecumenical human rights organization of church people in Mindanao added that the church cannot remain silent by tolerating the structure of violence and oppression to further harass and disrespect the already exploited people.

PCPR commented that for the church to become the Body of Christ and Flock of God, rights of the poor have to be respected and defended. The same human rights group beleives that the rights of the people are the moral rights set by the Lord of Justice, the Prince of Peace.

Thailand

PRC President's Visit, Cambodian Peace Viewed

BK1306091191 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in English 1500 GMT 11 Jun 91

["Special report": "Chinese President's State Visit to Thailand Marks Closer Ties Between the Two Countries"]

[Text] Chinese President Yang Shangkun arrived in Thailand on Monday for a six-day state visit as part of the acceleration of longstanding close ties between Thailand and China. Accompanying the president are: Foreign Minister Qian Qichen, Deputy Foreign Minister Xu Dunxin, and Assistant Minister of Foreign Economic Relations and

Trade Wang Wendong. President Yang Shangkun has been scheduled to attend a welcoming ceremony at which he will be handed the key to the city by Bangkok Governor Chamlong Simuang. Later on Monday evening, their majesties hosted a royal dinner for the president at the Chakkri Throne Hall. Today, President Yang is scheduled to lay a wreath at Victory Monument before visiting the Emerald Buddha Temple. Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun later paid a courtesy call on the Chinese president before hosting dinner for him at Government House. The Chinese leader will fly to Phuket on Thursday accompanied by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Maha Wachiralongkon.

It should be noted that since the normalization of relations in 1975, Thailand and China have had close ties. Bilateral trade has increased sharply from U.S. $3.7 million at the time of normalization to almost U.S. $2 billion last year. The two sides have also exchanged trade and cultural delegations to boost their understanding and cooperation regularly. Officials disclosed that today the Chinese president and his delegation are due to meet with Thai Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun, while Foreign Minister Qian Qichen is to have separate talks with Thai Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin. A Foreign Ministry source was quoted as saying that Thailand is likely to discuss the Cambodian issue with China, especially Thailand's assessment of the current peace process—in particular, the SNC [Supreme National Council] meeting in Thailand proposed by Prince Norodom Sihanouk. It was reported today that the four Khmer factions agreed to attend the next meeting of the Supreme National Council on 24 June in Phatthaya, Thailand's famous beach resort, in order to continue what is left over from last week's Jakarta meeting.

Cambodian peace talks between the Cambodian Supreme National Council, or SNC, and France and Indonesia, cochairs of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia, or PICC, ended last week without concrete progress, with the Khmer Rouge and the Phnom Penh regime failing to reach common ground. The Khmer Rouge demand full implementation of the UN peace plan under which the Phnom Penh regime will be ultimately dismantled and replaced by a UN peacekeeping force. But Phnom Penh, being afraid of losing its grip on power, has insisted that its administration and Armed Forces remain intact to stop the Khmer Rouge from returning to power. However, Prince Sihanouk, the nominal leader of the tripartite resistance coalition, has taken several dramatic initiatives, both in Jakarta and in Bangkok, aimed at narrowing the gap between the Khmer Rouge and the Phnom Penh Regime. The prince on Friday announced in Bangkok that he would join the SNC—which he has stayed away from since its inception last September—as one of the 12 council members, replacing resistance member Chausen Kosal. He also proposed another round of SNC meetings first in Thailand's northeastern province of Surin, with that now having been changed to Phatthaya, the beach resort.

China, as the main backer of the Khmer Rouge and one of the powerful five permanent members of the UN Security Council, is expected to play a major role to help facilitate the progress of the Cambodian peace talks. In a separate aspect of the Cambodian issue, during Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama's visit to Vietnam, Mr. Nakayama is expected to seek Hanoi's help to solve the Cambodian conflict in exchange with a lot of aid to Vietnam once a solution is found. Besides the Cambodian issue, the Chinese leader and top Thai officials are expected to discuss deals on the purchase of Thai rice in exchange for buying Chinese cement. They will also discuss joint development of the upper Mekong River Basin during the talks.

This particular visit of the Chinese president should be counted as one of the most important occasions in promoting closer links between Thailand and China. In the past, members of Thailand's royal family and top-level officials have been invited to visit China and been greeted with great hospitality. In return, Thailand has regularly hosted many delegations from China. This time President Yang Shangkun's state visit to Thailand is certainly one of the remarkable signs of good relations between the two longtime friendly countries.

Yang Shangkun 11 Jun Speech

BK1206151691 Bangkok XIN ZHONG YUAN RIBAO in Chinese 12 Jun 91 p 16

[Speech by PRC President Yang Shangkun at banquet held in his honor by Thai Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun at Government House in Bangkok on 11 June]

[Text] Your Esteemed Excellency Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun, ladies, gentlemen, and friends:

I am paying a state visit to your country at the invitation of His Majesty the King Phumiphon Adunyadet. Yesterday I had an audience with His Majesty the King in a very pleasant and harmonious atmosphere. Today I exchanged views with His Excellency Prime Minister Anan on issues of common interest and shared wide-ranging mutual understanding. Now, as Your Excellency is hosting this grand welcoming reception for us, I am deeply touched and happy. On this occasion I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to His Excellency Prime Minister Anan, the Thai Government, and the Thai people.

The Kingdom of Thailand is a country with a long history and splendid national culture. In recent years your country has chosen development means that are suitable to national conditions, giving full play to the importance of agriculture and vigorously bringing in advanced foreign technology and funds to bring about continuous, stable, and rapid economic growth. Thailand has become one of the most economically healthy countries in this region. We are very happy at the Thai people's great achievements in national construction.

China and Thailand are neighbors. The traditional relations between the two peoples go back to ancient times. Since China and Thailand established their diplomatic relations, there has been rapid and all-round development of relations between the two countries, and Sino-Thai friendship has become even more deeply rooted in the hearts of the people. Further development of good-neighborly and friendly relations between China and Thailand on the basis of the five principles of peaceful coexistence not only conforms to the common wish and basic interests of the two peoples, but is also advantageous to peace and stability in this region. We are willing to make joint efforts together with the Thai Government and people to continuously further the development of relations between the two countries.

The world is now in a period of changing from the old to a new order. The international situation is still characterized by turbulence and a lack of tranquillity. Thanks to the joint efforts of the international community, prospects have appeared for a political solution to the Cambodian issue, which has puzzled this region for a long time. The cochairman of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia recently held another round of meetings of the four Khmer factions in Jakarta. The aim of this meeting was to remove obstacles and pave the way for a political settlement. For years the Thai Government has upheld justice and made unremitting efforts for a just and reasonable settlement of the Cambodian issue, winning high praise by the international community. China wishes to continue its close cooperation with Thailand and other countries concerned in bringing about a comprehensive, just, and reasonable political solution of the Cambodian issue at an early date.

We are happy to see that ASEAN, a regional grouping, is full of vigor and vitality. It has played an increasingly important role in international affairs. China has always attached importance to developing friendly and cooperative relations with the ASEAN countries. Our cooperation with the ASEAN countries on the Cambodian issue and other regional and international questions has already produced positive results, and cooperation in the economic, trade, scientific, and technological fields is becoming increasingly extensive and very fruitful. We firmly believe that the friendly and cooperative relations already existing between China and the ASEAN countries are sure to further achieve greater development.

I now propose a toast for the continuous development of Sino-Thai friendly cooperation and relations, for the prosperity of the Kingdom of Thailand and the happiness of the Thai people, to the health and longevity of Their Majesties the King and Queen, to the health of Your Excellency Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun, and to all the ladies, gentlemen, and friends present here.

Minister Receives PRC's Wang Wendong

BK1206155791 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai 1030 GMT 12 Jun 91

[Text] Deputy Director General of the Foreign Ministry's Information Department Rawi Hongpraphat briefed reporters on results of the official talks between Deputy Foreign Minister Wichian Watthanakhun and Chinese Vice Minister of Foreign Economic Relations and Trade Wang Wendong at the Foreign Ministry on the evening of 11 June.

He said both sides had discussed trade issues. Both Thailand and China agreed to increase bilateral trade between the two countries. In addition, Thailand asked that bilateral trade be carried out in line with the 1991 trade protocol signed between Thailand and China. Regarding this issue, the Chinese side said China attaches importance to trade with Thailand. But China's agricultural production last year was quite good so it bought less agricultural products from Thailand. For example, China was able to produce sufficient sugar and rice and there was even a surplus for exports.

The deputy director general of the Foreign Ministry's Information Department said the Chinese side proposed greater exchanges of economic information between the two countries in order to learn what products the two countries need so correct orders can be placed.

Regarding investment, Rawi said Thailand had asked China to invest more in Thailand, especially in construction projects. Thailand and China have agreed to enter into joint investments in this field. The Board of Investment also grants promotional privileges for this.

The deputy director general of the Foreign Ministry's Information Department also reported that Thailand had proposed cooperation between China, Laos, and Thailand in developing the Mekong River basin, tourism, and transportation. Thailand has a plan to build a road into Laos through southern China in order to develop tourism.

Sunthon, Suchinda Meet Pakistani Chief of Staff

BK1206153591 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1230 GMT 11 Jun 91

[Text] Admiral Iftikhar Ahmad Sirohey, chairman of Pakistan's Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee, called on Supreme Commander General Sunthon Khongsomphong at the Supreme Command Headquarters this morning. The visitor, accompanied by the host, reviewed the honor guards. They exchanged views on topics of common interest to the two countries. Gen. Sunthon also presented a royal decoration to the chairman of the Pakistani Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee.

At 1015 the Pakistani officer called on Army Commander General Suchinda Khraprayun at the Army Auditorium. Also present during the meeting were: Deputy Army Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Pramon Phalasin, Assistant Army Chief of Staff for Intelligence Lieutenant General Uam Manorat, and Secretary to the Army Major General Anuson Kritsanaserani.

Paper on Cooperation With SRV in Rice Prices

BK1306102591 Bangkok THAI RAT in Thai 13 Jun 91 p 3

[Editorial: "Bangkok Rice Prices"]

[Text] In addition to being an industrial leader, the United States is also the world's biggest exporter of agricultural products. The announced agricultural product prices of Chicago have, as we all know, become the world prices. Even a maize exporting country like Thailand still has to follow the Chicago prices. As a matter of fact, Thailand is the world's top exporter of several agricultural goods, especially rice. Thailand should therefore set Bangkok rice prices and make them world rice prices.

If Thailand is able to organize a grouping of rice producing countries in Southeast Asia, there is a very high possibility that the Bangkok rice prices will become the world rice prices. Although there are rice prices fixed by the United States and other countries, the rice harvesting seasons in those countries is not the same as in Thailand. Therefore, the Bangkok rice prices can become the dominant rice prices in the eastern part of the world.

The people involved in Thai rice trade, both government authorities and private Thai rice traders, particularly the rice exporters, should consider this an important issue. They should recall that last year Thailand lost a big part of its market share for low-grade rice to Vietnam and Burma. In particular, Vietnam sold its rice at much lower prices than in the world market. We should not be overconfident that we will still lose only a market share of low-grade rice and underestimate Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, and Burma as unable to find top-grade fragrant rice seeds to grow. It is possible that they will soon have the kind of rice that can compete with ours at the lower price levels.

Recently, a seven-man Vietnamese delegation representing a research institute of science, marketing, and prices visited Thailand to conduct a thorough study with the Board of Trade on Thailand's structure of rice prices—both prices in the local market and export prices in the world market. They frankly said they wanted to cooperate with Thailand in exchanging data on the matter in order to apply the knowledge obtained to the business in their country. Their visit should be regarded as a golden chance for Thailand.

We should take this opportunity to persuade Vietnam to cooperate with Thailand in rice trading, despite the fact that the two countries are competitors in the business. The cooperation will yield positive results in the structure of rice prices and Bangkok rice prices will become acceptable world prices only if Vietnam uses Bangkok rice prices to sell its goods. Stability can then be expected in rice prices. In the process, it could be considered that Thailand helps guarantee minimum rice prices for all the rice exporting countries.

Thailand has abundant, keen experience in rice trading. We should use it to enable Vietnam and Burma to sell their rice at Bangkok prices. The Japanese in Vietnam should not be allowed to meddle in the world rice trade. If so, Thailand will face a lot of trouble.

Government Orders Expulsion of Lao 'Guerrillas'

BK1306015691 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 13 Jun 91 p 6

[Text] Thailand has ordered the expulsion of anti-communist Laotian guerrillas from secret Thai sanctuaries to improve relations between the two governments, rebel leaders and sources close to the Thai military say.

Troops had been ordered to clear the guerrillas and their civilian supporters out by June 10, according to documents obtained by the Associated Press and Westerners just back from guerrilla zones.

"The Thais have issued an order to the guerrillas: Either go back to Laotian territory, or disarm and go to the refugee camps," said one Western source close to both the guerrillas and the Thai military. This was confirmed by rebel leaders, who also demanded anonymity.

Thai border units have begun to enforce the new policy, said three sources, including another Westerner who is close to the guerrillas and returned from a guerrilla sanctuary in northern Thailand last week.

"About 1,000 civilians and soldiers were going back to Laos, to the jungle," he said.

Thailand has provided sanctuary to the guerrillas and allowed supplies to be shipped through its territory to the remote jungle border area for more than a decade, angering the Laotian government.

Thai relations with Laos have improved after high-level meetings in recent months. A border war in 1987-88 had caused hundreds of casualties.

"From now on, the Lao and Thai military have agreed to suppress the armed Laotian coup d'etatists," said one of thousands of leaflets that Laotian aeroplanes dropped last week on the guerrilla sactuaries. The leaflet was brought back by the second Westerner.

It pictured Thai military junta leader Gen. Sunthon Khongsomphong and Laotian chief of general staff Gen Sisawat Keobounphan sitting together on a sofa.

The guerrillas "are illegals recognised by neither the Thai nor Lao governments," said the leaflet, which offered to pardon "anyone who turns in their weapons and ammunition.... And returns quickly to live with their children and wives to be good citizens of the nation."

The guerrillas are mainly ethnic Hmongs, who were the backbone of a U.S.-financed secret army during the Indochina war that ended in 1975. Legendary fighters, the Hmongs died by the thousands serving the American battle against the communists.

Many Hmongs fled to refugee camps in Thailand or to exile in the West, and others have joined resistance groups operating from Thai sactuaries.

Committee To Tackle Problems of Fishermen

BK1306020391 Bangkok THE NATION in English 13 Jun 91 p A 2

[Text] A national committee will be set up to tackle problems associated with Thai fishermen, to regulate operators of trawlers and to explore possible fishing cooperation with neighbouring countries, Deputy Agriculture Minister At Taolanon said yesterday.

At said government agencies involved had agreed that the committee should be composed of representatives from the Interior, Agriculture, Foreign Affairs, Defence and Communications Ministries.

"The committee will take into consideration national security, the safety of Thai fishermen and prospects of cooperation with other countries in initiating new laws," the deputy minister said.

He said Thai authorities would hold talks with the Malaysian and Vietnamese governments to try to resolve disputes over alleged frequent violations of those countries' waters by Thai trawlers as well as to seek the release of Thai fishermen being detained in the two countries.

At present, Thailand has the seventh-largest fishing fleet in the world.

As marine resources in Thai waters have been depleted, some Thai trawlers are now fishing in other countries' territorial waters under concessions while others are operating illegally.

At and Fisheries Director General Plotprasop Suratsawadi briefed Foreign Ministry officials on the latest developments in fishing-related issues at the ministry yesterday.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Sakthip Krairoek said yesterday Thailand would call a joint subcommittee on fishing under the Thai-Malaysian Joint Commission late this month or early next month to try to solve the problem of violation of territorial waters.

The Thai delegation will be headed by Economic Affairs Director General Sawanit Kongsiri, the spokesman said.

Thai trawlers are frequently seized by Malaysian authorities for allegedly violating the country's exclusive economic zone although Thai fishermen have often said they were only passing through.

Malaysian authorities have demanded that Thai fishermen seek permission before passing through Malaysia's exclusive economic zone but the Thai government insists that there is no need to do so as Thailand does not recognize the unilaterally-declared zone.

Report on Interview With Army Commander

BK1306023991 Bangkok THE NATION in English 13 Jun 91 p A 6

[Text] No matter how the military's relationship with the Charoen Phokkhaphan [CP] Group is perceived, Army Commander in Chief Gen Suchinda Khraprayun has demonstrated that he has been playing an instrumental role in stabilizing the co-existence of the National Peacekeeping Council [NPKC] and the interim government of Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun.

When Army Chief of Staff Gen Wirot Saengsanit, having developed conflicts with Communications Minister Nukun Prachuapmo over the appointment of the Telephone Organization of Thailand's (TOT) board directors under his purview, asked to resign from the Cabinet as deputy communications minister, Suchinda withheld the resignation, asking him to be patient.

"Minister Nukun is a good man but he is probably difficult to work with because of his aggressive style," Suchinda commented during a candid talk with a group of senior journalists last Tuesday night.

Later, when the six-member comittee reviewing the Bt [baht] 100-billion project to expand the country's 1.4 million telephone lines by another three million was caught in an impasse because of conflicting approaches on how to proceed, Suchinda and Anan met to work out a way out. The formula was to replace the committee with another more compact, panel comprised of Nukun, PM's [Prime Minister's] Secretary General Sathaphon Kawitanon, Wirot and Assistant Army Commander in Chief Gen Chatchom Kanlong, who was chairman of the unsuccessful six-man committee, though the two army officers refused to sit on the new committee.

Even though the premier urged them to accept the appointment, they resolutely remained aloof until Suchinda, at the request of the premier, stepped in to get things moving.

"I had to order them, in my capacitiy as army commander in chief, to join the committee," he said.

As is now known, the new committee failed to work. Shortly after the formation of the new panel, based on the ground rule that they would define a joint stance before negotiating with CP, Nukun called CP President Thanin Chiawaranon to a meeting to pursue negotiations.

The rift broke out into the open after Nukun, allegedly without consultations with the two army officers on the committee, took his proposals seeking sweeping changes to the draft contract on CP's concession to the Cabinet in what was seen to be a move to seek blessing for his position which was opposed by the army officers. Wirot openly criticized Nukun and initiated a plan for a TV debate on the pros and cons of Nukun's anti private-monopoly stand. Nukun hit back with a stinging interview.

Suchinda disclosed that he rejected Wirot's request to bring the conflict to the public by going on the air, apparently aware that the move would aggravate the confrontation and possibly snowball into the first political crisis facing both the government and the NPKC.

When NPKC leaders met Anan and his key Cabinet members one day hot on the heels of the verbal war between Wirot and Nukun, Suchinda said he offered the suggestion that NPKC Chairman Gen Sunthon Khongsomphong and Anan jointly chair a brainstorming meeting to be participated in by supporters of Nukun's package proposal and those subscribing to the military's approach and suggested that the apprehension over a possible monopoly by CP could be removed by polishing the draft contract while maintaining the groundwork laid down by the Terms of Reference for the bidding (TOR).

"My idea was to settle the problem once and for all. After Gen Sunthon and the premier listened to the arguments by both sides, then the duo could discuss them between themselves and make a final decision on which approach would be taken," Suchinda said.

Nonetheless, the proposal did not materialize because Sunthon had to leave the meeting for another official obligation, he said.

At the closed-door encounter between NPKC leaders and the premier and his key Cabinet members, Anan proposed that he would personlly take charge of the negotiations. Suchinda accepted the proposal, indicating that he still had trust in the prime minister despite the conflicts between his men in the Cabinet and Nukun, who apparently had the prime minister's blessings.

At the meeting with the senior journalists, Suchinda questioned the merits and practicability of two major proposals of a 10-point package the government put to CP concerning the revision of the concessional agreement—breaking up the nation-wide concession into telephone zones to allow CP to operate in only part of the country; and drastically cutting back the concession period from 25 years to no more than 15 years.

Nevertheless, he made it clear that he did not see the issue as a black-and-white case, as each side had good reasons for their stance.

PM's Office Minister Phaichit Uathawikun and Deputy Finance Minister Wiraphong Ramangkun, he disclosed, had personally explained to him that the country would stand to lose if a private monopoly was allowed to take place under the telephone expansion project.

"When I listened to what they had to say, I thought in my mind that they were good people, who really intended to protect the country's interests. However, I am not quite sure about their arguments, because they are, by career, economists (who naturally view the issue from the perspective of economic theories)," Suchinda said.

Also, Suchinda unequivocally said that whatever the outcome of the negotiations—whether a compromise is struck between the government and CP or the concession was scrapped for a new bidding—he would not care.

"We have left the matter in the hands of the prime minister," he reaffirmed.

The army chief also denied that he had anything to do with CP.

And when he ventured his opinions against the area-zoning proposal and the proposed cut on the concession period, he insisted his view was based on the merits of the issue, and nothing else.

His arguments were simple and characteristic of his pragmatist approach.

"How can anybody lend serious credence to the report by the World Bank, recommending that the country be split up into telephone zones to prevent a shift from state monopoly to that of the private sector, when the author is Sri Lankan? Look at the outdated telephone system in that country," he said. Nukun had used the World Bank report as ammunition to back his move to reduce the size of the concession, awarded to CP by the previous government.

Suchinda also allayed concerns that CP would become stronger than TOT if the draft contract was accepted due to brain drain from the state firm benefiting CP Telecom, a subsidiary of CP set up to undertake the project.

"CP has pledged that it would not accept experts from TOT but would rely mainly on those from Hong Kong and Singapore," he said.

Vietnam

Japanese Foreign Minister, Entourage Received

BK1206162591 Hanoi VNA in English 1402 GMT 12 Jun 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA June 12—Nguyen Van Linh, general secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee, received here this morning the visiting Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama and his entourage.

The party leader said that the frank and useful talks between the Vietnamese and Japanese foreign ministers was a good chance for better mutual understanding. He pointed out that Vietnam is a country rich in natural resources and abundant in labour but lack of capital [as received]. It is prepared and wants to cooperate with other countries, including Japan in the interests of the people in each country and the development in the region.

Referring to the Cambodian question, the Vietnamese leader stressed that Vietnam always wishes to cooperate with goodwill countries in finding a fair and reasonable political solution to the Cambodian problem on the basis of respect for the Cambodian people's independence and sovereignty. He wished the friendly and cooperative relations between Vietnam and Japan constant development.

Minister Taro Nakayaama said that Japan and Vietnam are two Asian countries having many favourable conditions for their future bilateral cooperation in the economic and other fields. He expressed his hope that Vietnam would create a favourable climate to attract more investment from Japanese producers and businessmen. The Japanese foreign minister also pointed out that Japan is ready to do all it can to contribute to solving as soon as possible the Cambodian problem on the principles of fairness and respect for the Cambodian people's self-determination.

Present at the reception were Deputy Foreign Minister Le Mai, Vietnamese Ambassador to Japan Vo Van Sung, and Japanese Ambassador to Vietnam Hiroyuki Yusita.

This afternoon, Minister Taro Nakayama left Hanoi for Ho Chi Minh, the last leg of his trip to Vietnam.

He was seen off at the government guests' house by Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach and other officials of the Vietnamese Foreign Ministry.

Nakayama Activities Reported

BK1206113391 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 12 June 91

[Text] During his current visit to Vietnam, the Japanese Foreign Minister Mr. Taro Nakayama have meet several Vietnamese leaders and the two sides have dealt with many issues related to bilateral ties and the Cambodian problem. Our radio provides further details:

Upon his arrival in Vietnam two days ago, the Japanese Foreign Minister has had several important contacts and meetings with the Vietnamese leadership.

On Tuesday, 11 June, he was received by Mr. Vo Chi Cong and Mr. Do Muoi, state and government leaders of Vietnam. During these meetings, the two Vietnamese leaders highly acclaimed the visit by Mr. Taro Nakayama as a further demonstration of the Japan-Vietnam relationship. They reiterated Vietnam's determination to go ahead with renovation. Chairman Do Muoi said: To this end, Vietnam wishes to expand her relations and cooperation with Japan on the basis of equality, mutual respect and benefit. The two leaders of Vietnam expressed the wish for continued comprehensive cooperation between the two countries for the sake of the two peoples, peace, stability, and development in Southeast Asia and the Asia-Pacific region.

The two sides also included the Cambodian problem in their meetings. In this connection President Vo Chi Cong stressed Vietnam's unswerving stand and goodwill toward the settlement of the Cambodian issue on the basis of respecting independence and sovereignty of Cambodia. He welcomed Japan's contribution to the search for a solution to the Cambodian question and voiced Vietnam's readiness to cooperate with Japan with regard to the question in Southeast Asia as well as Asia-Pacific.

During his separate meetings with Vietnamese leaders, the Japanese Foreign Minister has expressed his elation of the visit. He hailed the achievements recorded by Vietnam in the process of renovation and pledged to help Vietnam to achieve the goal. He told Chairman Do Muoi that Japan is willing to strengthen all-side cooperation with Vietnam and to share experience with Vietnam in national development.

Mr. Taro Nakayama invited Chairman Do Muoi to visit Japan. Chairman Do Muoi accepted the invitation and conveyed his regards and invitation to Japanese Prime Minister Kaifu to visit Vietnam.

Earlier, the Japanese Foreign Minister held talks with his Vietnamese counterpart Mr. Nguyen Co Thach. The two diplomats compared notes on issues relating to bilateral relations and situation in Southeast Asia and Asia-Pacific as well as stand on the Cambodian issue. They agreed to continue efforts to promote the settlement of the Cambodian issue.

Japan Urges Flexibility

OW1306111591 Tokyo KYODO in English 1057 GMT 13 Jun 91

[By Masanori Kikuta]

[Text] Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, June 13 KYODO—Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama urged the Phnom Penh government Thursday to be more flexible toward a negotiated solution to Cambodia's 12-year-old civil war.

Nakayama made the request during a two-hour meeting with Phnom Penh Prime Minister Hun Sen in this former South Vietnamese capital, a Japanese spokesman said.

He told Hun Sen it is "important for him to be more flexible" in seeking to modify a peace plan drafted by the United Nations, the spokesman said.

Phnom Penh is demanding assurances be written into the plan to prevent the return to power of the Khmer Rouge, blamed for the deaths of hundreds of thousands of Cambodians during its terror rule in the late 1970s.

Nakayama also called on Hun Sen to pursue peace without isolating the Khmer Rouge, the most powerful of three rebel groups allied against the Phnom Penh government, the spokesman said.

Hun Sen told a press conference following the meeting he and Nakayama shared the view the Khmer Rouge's "intransigence" led to a failure in peace talks among Cambodia's four warring parties in Jakarta last week.

The Chinese-backed Khmer Rouge rejected an agreement between Hun Sen and the two other rebel factions on the leadership of the Supreme National Council (SNC), which is intended to represent Cambodia's sovereignty until free elections are held.

Both Hun Sen and Nakayama described the agreement as important, the Japanese spokesman said.

"Sure, a political solution must have the participation of the Khmer Rouge," Hun Sen said.

"But I stressed (to Nakayama) that we should not allow the peace process to be under the influence or the hostage of the Khmer Rouge."

If this was allowed, Cambodia "could never find a solution," Hun Sen said. He said he also emphasized to Nakayama that Phnom Penh did not want to exclude the Khmer Rouge at the Jakarta talks, but rather the guerrilla group isolated itself.

Phnom Penh agrees to the Khmer Rouge participating in the peace process, but "we should not give them a free hand to return to power" because of concern over genocide, Hun Sen said.

Nakayama also urged Hun Sen to cooperate with Prince Norodom Sihanouk, a former Cambodian ruler heading the three-party rebel coalition, in reaching compromise at an SNC meeting planned for June 24-26 in the Thai resort of Pattaya, the spokesman said.

Hun Sen said he sought Japanese support to prevent Sihanouk from backpedaling, saying he understands the difficulties faced by the prince.

Sihanouk, who is not an SNC member, agreed at the Jakarta talks to be SNC chairman and Hun Sen vice chairman, but the prince later said he will join the body as an ordinary member.

Hun Sen told reporters Nakayama informed him of the planned visit to Japan from June 26 by Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen.

He said he expects Nakayama to try persuading Qian "to get the Khmer Rouge to be more flexible" in the peace process.

Hun Sen said Nakayama denied press reports he urged Vietnam to put pressure on Phnom Penh to facilitate a solution during meetings with Vietnamese leaders in Hanoi earlier this week.

He told Nakayama the Cambodians are "very independent-minded" people who "cannot accept any pressure from any party."

Phnom Penh sometimes can accept Japan's views and suggestions, but not through Vietnam, Hun Sen said.

If Phnom Penh accepts Vietnam's views in this way, "then we will be accused of following the policies and guidelines of Vietnam," allowing Hanoi to determine Cambodia's fate, he said.

Hun Sen and Nakayama "have been able to settle this misunderstanding" at the meeting, he added.

Nakayama will fly to Jakarta on Friday on the last leg of his two-nation tour to discuss the Cambodian issue and bilateral issues.

SPK Reports Meeting

BK1306115991 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1118 GMT 13 Jun 91

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK June 13th—Prime Minister [PM] Hun Sen met with Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, this morning.

The meeting, the continuation of the one held in Tokyo last April, was centered on the search of a political solution to the Cambodian problem and the relationship between the two countries.

Speaking to foreign newsmen after the meeting, Prime Minister Hun Sen said he had been very much encouraged by the Japanese foreign minister to make further efforts for seeking a political settlement of the Cambodian conflict.

Prime Minister Hun Sen said that the Japanese foreign minister warmly hailed the agreement reached between he himself and Prince Norodom Sihanouk in Jakarta on the leadership of the Supreme National Council and the extension of the cease-fire without limitation of time.

Mr. Taro Nakayama regarded the Hun Sen-Sihanouk agreement as a very important step toward a comprehensive settlement of the Cambodian conflict, P.M. Hun Sen said.

The Cambodian leader further said that during the meeting he also informed the Japanese foreign minister of the State of Cambodia's proposed amendments of the UN draft plan on Cambodia to the co-chairmen of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia.

P.M. Hun Sen also spoke about the misinterpretation of some Western media on what they said "Japan urged Vietnam to press Phnom Penh Government to fully accept the UN peace plan." [sentence as received]

With this regard Prime Minister Hun Sen quoted the Japanese foreign minister as having told him that "the Japanese side had never done like that."

The Japanese foreign minister, Prime Minister Hun Sen said, made the acknowledgement that the Cambodian problem should be solved by the Cambodians themselves and no one could make the pressure on the State of Cambodia.

The meeting, according to Hun Sen was held in the atmosphere of frankness, has made the two sides mutual understanding [as received] and the two sides decided to further cooperate in settling of the Cambodian problem by peaceful means.

Asked on what role Japan could play in the political solution of the Cambodian problem, Prime Minister Hun Sen said the Japanese foreign minister assured him that he would ask Chinese foreign minister, during his June 26 visit to Japan, to make the Khmer Rouge take more flexible position on the Cambodian peace process.

AFP: Hun Sen Spurns Pressure

BK1306104491 Hong Kong AFP in English 1033 GMT 13 Jun 91

[Text] Ho Chi Minh City, June 13 (AFP)—Cambodian Premier Hun Sen told Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama here Thursday that Phnom Penh would not be pressured into a solution to the country's 12-year-old civil war.

"I confirmed to Mr. Nakayama that the Cambodian people are very independent and cannot accept pressure of any kind," Mr. Hun Sen told reporters after meeting here for more than two hours with the Japanese foreign minister.

Mr. Hun Sen said Mr. Nakayama had assured him that he had not asked the Vietnamese to pressure their ally in Phnom Penh to be more flexible about a U.N.-brokered peace plan for Cambodia.

According to a Japanese spokesman, Mr. Nakayama had earlier urged his Vietnamese counterpart Nguyen Co Thach to apply pressure on Phnom Penh to accept the plan.

Mr. Nakayama, the first Japanese foreign minister to visit Vietnam since the establishment of ties with Hanoi in 1973, held several days of meetings with officials in Hanoi before coming here to meet the Cambodian premier.

Mr. Hun Sen asked the Japanese Foreign Minister to urge his Chinese counterpart to force the main opposition force, the Khmer Rouge, into a more flexible position on the peace process.

Mr. Nakayama is due to meet Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen in Tokyo on June 26.

Mr. Hun sen said that, according to Mr. Nakayama, the Japanese would insist that China force its ally, the Khmer Rouge, to become more flexible in the peace negotiations, on the issue of a cease-fire and on the leadership of Cambodia's Supreme National Council (SNC).

The Phnom Penh premier said the Khmer Rouge "have to participate in a comprehensive political solution" but not at the cost of a return of the genocide that marked their rule between 1975 and 1979.

The Khmer Rouge, militarily the most powerful member of the three-party Cambodian resistance, are estimated to have killed hundreds of thousands of people before being ousted by the Vietnamese in 1979.

According to Mr. Hun Sen, the Japanese prime minister agreed it was "the Khmer Rouge's intransigence" that had blocked progress at recent peace talks in Jakarta.

"We don't want to exclude the Khmer Rouge, but they are isolating themselves," Mr. Hun Sen said, adding that it was in the Khmer Rouge's best interests to join the peace process as any other position would be "suicidal" and lead them to "lose everything."

"What is important is to persuade the Khmer Rouge to accept the Paris peace process and the Sihanouk-Hun Sen agreement," he said, stressing that the peace process could not be "taken hostage" by the guerrilla group.

They have rejected an agreement to appoint Prince Norodom Sihanouk as chairman of the SNC with Mr. Hun Sen as vice chairman that was reached in Jakarta 12 days ago and have also said they will not observe a cease-fire that began on May 1.

The Jakarta talks were also stalled by Phnom Penh's insistance on amendments to the Cambodian peace plan drawn up by the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council—the Soviet Union, China, the United States, France and Britain.

Phnom Penh is demanding measures to prevent the return to power of the Khmer Rouge, the putting off of the disarming of groups until after elections and a diminuation of the role the United Nations would play in the administration of Cambodia ahead of polls.

Mr. Hun Sen said he had received assurances from Prince Sihanouk that the Khmer Rouge would attend the next meeting of the SNC at Phatthaya in Thailand. Among the main problems to be dealt with at the meeting will be that of the leadership of the council and the sending of an SNC delegation to the next U.N. General Assembly.

Mr. Hun Sen said he would also raise the issues of the cease-fire and the cessation of military aid from abroad to the Cambodian factions.

The SNC, which represents Cambodian sovereignty, was set up last September in Jakarta and has six members from the Phnom Penh government and two from each of the three guerrilla factions.

Mr. Nakayama will end his five-day visit to Vietnam Friday when he flies to Jakarta.

On Thursday afternoon, the Japanese foreign minister visited the tunnels at Cu Chi, 30 kilometres (18 miles) north of here, which were used by the Vietnamese during their wars against France and the United States.

Leaves for Ho Chi Minh City

BK1306085291 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 12 Jun 91

[Text] Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama and his entourage left Hanoi for a visit to Ho Chi Minh City this afternoon, 12 June.

Minister Taro Nakayama was seen off at the government guest house by Nguyen Co Thach, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and foreign minister, and many high-ranking cadres from the Ministry of Foreign affairs.

Also present were many cadres of the Japanese embassy in Vietnam and a large number of domestic and foreign mass media correspondents.

Accompanying the Japanese foreign minister on the visit to Ho Chi Minh city were deputy foreign Minister Le Mai, our Ambassador to Japan Vo Van Sung, and Japanese Ambassador to Vietnam Hiroyuki Yushita.

Arrives in Ho Chi Minh City

OW1206115991 Tokyo KYODO in English 1041 GMT 12 Jun 91

[Text] Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, June 12 KYODO—Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama arrived in Ho Chi Minh City from Hanoi on Wednesday for talks with Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen of the Vietnam-backed Phnom Penh government on Thursday.

Nakayama will leave Ho Chi Minh city on Friday for Jakarta for talks with Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas, who hosted a round of Cambodian peace talks last week.

He is scheduled to return to Japan on Sunday.

Earlier in the day in Hanoi, the Japanese Foreign Minister met Communist Party Leader Nguyen Van Linh.

Essay Acclaims Japanese Role in Cambodian Peace

BK1306070591 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 0015 GMT 12 Jun 91

[Essay by Kien Nam]

[Text] A positive and prominent contribution by Japan to the Cambodian issue was made when it arranged a meeting for the opposing factions in Cambodia at the Japanese government house in the heart of Tokyo from 4-6 June 1990. When Pol Pot stated he was boycotting the meeting, the Japanese Government adopted a very tough attitude against this rejection by the Khmer Rouge faction. The Japanese Government arranged a meeting between Hun Sen and Sihanouk, known as the bipartite meeting, with the representive of the State of Cambodia on one side and the representive of the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea on the other.

A joint communique was signed at that meeting. Although the contents of this document are still somewhat limited in certain aspects, it points out the work to be done in the future, which, if it is satisfactorily implemented, will contribute greatly to attaining a solution to the Cambodian conflict. This is because the joint communique calls on both sides to refrain from carrying out armed activities, to elect representatives to the Supreme National Council [SNC] of Cambodia, and to fix a timing for the first SNC meeting.

In connection with the Hun Sen-Sihanouk meeting above, the KPRP [Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party] Central Committee Political Bureau put a high value on the close cooperation between the Thai Government delegation, led by General Chawalit, and the Japanese Government, as well as the cooperation and active support given by various governments—French, Indonesian, and Australian. All these helped to create favorable conditions for the signing of the joint communique.

After that meeting, on 6 June 1990, Japanese Prime Minister Kaifu held talks with Hun Sen, chairman of the Cambodian Council of Ministers. Prime Minister Kaifu said those agreements already attained should be taken into account in achieving a genuine peace in Cambodia.

To the Japanese public, the fact that the Japanese prime minister held talks with Hun Sen, chairman of the Cambodian Council of Ministers, whom Japan has not yet recognized, was a special case as it showed that the Japanese Government gives considerable respect to the Phnom Penh government for its efforts to bring peace to Cambodia.

In the future, Japan will need to continue to strengthen its relations with the Cambodian government so as to help end the war and rebuild Cambodia.

It is Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama, the organizer of a meeting of Cambodian parties that led to the founding of the SNC, who himself told a news conference at that time that the meeting was of great significance for it would help achieve a comprehensive peace in Cambodia. To maintain those agreements already attained, Japan has to continue to cooperate with the parties concerned.

There have been many visits to Cambodia of various Japanese delegations aimed at seeking to understand the actual situation in that country and to consider prospects for aid and cooperation:

—In February 1991, Masaharu Kono, head of the Japanese Foreign Ministry's Southeast Asian Department, toured Southeast Asia following the U.S. decision to withdraw its recongition of the Democratic Kampuchea representative at the United Nations.

—In April 1991, Chairman Hun Sen held talks on Cambodia with the director-general of the Japanese Foreign Ministry's Asian Department during his convalescence trip to Japan.

—In May 1991, Cambodian National Assembly Chairman Chea Sim received and held talks with the Japanese cultural delegation led by Mr. Nirayama, headmaster of a Japanese fine arts college, over Japanese help in restoring and preserving the Angkor heritage.

In addition, apart from the assistance given by certain non-governmental organizations, the Japanese Government has for the first time given over $1 million in aid to the Cambodian government. This is also the first time that Japan has proposed reserving $11.3 million, or 20 percent of its total international food aid budget, for the Phnom Penh Government in this fiscal year.

Japanese Prime Minister Kaifu toured five ASEAN countries from 27 April-6 May 1991, including Malaysia, Brunei, Thailand, Singapore, and the Philippines. He arrived in Thailand on 30 April. In an interview with the Thai newspaper, THE NATION, Prime Minister Kaifu stated that Japan would give active support to those efforts made by the ASEAN countries to broaden their relations with the Indochinese states. He emphasized that encouraging stability and development in the Indochinese region after peace is restored in Cambodia will be an important matter as this may effect the stability and prosperity of Japan as well as of other ASEAN and Asian nations. He expressed hope that ASEAN countries would broaden their contacts with Indochinese countries, saying that Japan plans to support such positive efforts.

Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama began his official visit to Vietnam on 10 June 1991. He is scheduled to meet Chairman Hun Sen in Ho Chi Minh City to exchange views over the Cambodian issue.

Hun Sen Confirms 92 Killed by Khmer Rouge

BK1306115191 Hong Kong AFP in English 1110 GMT 13 Jun 91

[Text] Hanoi, June 13 (AFP)—Phnom Penh Prime Minister Hun Sen confirmed Thursday that the Khmer Rouge had killed 92 Vietnamese civilians in Cambodia's eastern province of Kampong Cham at the end of May.

"It is correct that the Vietnamese have been killed," he said, stressing that they were forestry workers and not soldiers.

"If they had been Vietnamese soldiers, the Khmer Rouge would never have killed them," Mr. Hun Sen said at a press conference after his talks with Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama.

"We have an agreement on the exploitation of forests with the Vietnamese and it is completely normal that they should be in the country, in the same way that other foreigners are," Mr. Hun Sen said.

Hanoi withdrew its troops from Cambodia in September 1989, more than a decade after they had invaded to oust the Khmer Rouge, which has since become the main guerrilla force opposing the Phnom Penh Government.

The Cambodian resistance, which also includes groups led by former monarch Prince Norodom Sihanouk and former Prime Minister Son Sann, has contested that Vietnam has withdrawn all its troops.

Greetings Sent to Albanian Labor Party Congress

BK1006152991 Hanoi VNA in English 1417 GMT 10 Jun 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA June 10—The Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee today sent greetings to the Tenth Congress of the Albanian Party of Labour.

The message says: "We follow with deep concern the recent developments in Albania, and sincerely hope that the party and people of Albania will overcome all difficulties and trials, stabilize the situation and continue to lead the country forwards."

It wishes the friendship between the two parties and peoples constant consolidation and development.

Diplomatic Ties Established With Djibouti

BK1006153591 Hanoi VNA in English 1418 GMT 10 Jun 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA June 10—The Socialist Republic of Vietnam and Republic of Djibouti have decided to establish diplomatic relations at the ambassadorial level as from April 30, 1991.

The decision was stipulated in a joint communique signed in Tokyo on June 8 between Vietnamese ambassador to Japan Vo Van Sung and ambassador of Djibouti Rachad Ahmed Salen Faah on behalf of the two governments.

News Conference Previews Party Congress

BK1206140191 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 12 Jun 91

[Text] Dear friends, in Hanoi this morning, 12 June, the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV] Central Committee Ideology and Culture Department and the information center of the Seventh CPV Congress held a news conference on the seventh national party congress.

Attending the news conference was a large group of newsmen from news agencies, newspapers, radio and television stations at the central level and in Hanoi, and local newsmen from Haiphong, Ha Nam Ninh, Ha Bac, Ha Son Binh, and Hai Hung Provinces.

Comrade Tran Trong Tan, member of the CPV Central Committee and head of the party Central Committee Ideology and Culture Department, directed the news conference.

Commencing the news conference, Comrade Tran Trong Tan said:

[Begin Tran Trong Tan recording] On behalf of the CPV Central Committee, I would like to inform you, comrades, of the Seventh CPV Congress to be convened for four days, starting from 24 June. In his opening address at the recent 12th plenum of the party Central Committee, Comrade General Secretary Nguyen Van Linh said that the Seventh CPV Congress has a great, important task of not only reviewing the implementation of the Sixth CPV Congress resolution to determine orientations and tasks for the next five years, but also of adopting the platform to set forth concepts and fundamental orientations and steps for the transition period to socialism in Vietnam. The congress will also adopt the strategy of socioeconomic stabilization and development, the report on party building and amendments to the party regulations, and the amended party statutes. The congress will be electing the highest leadership organ of the party at a time when there will be a major generational change in leadership. As a result, the Seventh CPV Congress has a very decisive role in determining prospects for national development in the years ahead and on a long-term basis. [end recording]

Afterwards, Comrade Tran Trong Tan said the congress will be attended by 1,176 delegates, among whom 1,171 were elected by party organization congresses at various levels and five were appointed by the party Central Committee from party organizations abroad which could not hold their congresses due to some special reasons.

Delegates to the congress are composed of 116 workers, 419 cadres and state personnel, 320 peasants, nine handicraft workers, 208 students, 78 soldiers, 16 policemen, and 10 poor people. Regarding their educational backgrounds, 585 delegates have graduated from college, 108 of whom are holders of PhD and Masters degrees, and 50 of whom are grade two professors; 841 delegates have completed party high school training; 256 have completed the middle-level political theory course; 461 have finished the economic management course; and 151 have completed the state management course. Among them, 133 are women and 124 are ethnic minorities. Regarding their age groups: 443 are 30-50 years old, 503 are 51-60 years old, 210 are 61-70 years old, and 20 are over 70 years old. The youngest delegate is 29 years old and the oldest 86. Among the delegates, 35 joined the party before the August Revolution, 259 joined the party after the war of resistance against the French, 780 joined the party after the war of resistance against U.S. imperialism, and 102 have joined the party since May 1975.

Among the 1,176 delegates to the Seventh CPV Congress, 715 of them are attending a national party congress for the first time.

Also attending the seventh national party congress are four delegations from fraternal countries, including delegations from the CPSU, the Lao People's Revolutionary Party, the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party, and the Cuban Communist Party.

At the news conference, Comrade Tran Trong Tan also mentioned the working process of the party Central Committee's recent 12th plenum. At this plenum, each member of the party Central Committee received a copy of the summary of views contributed to the seventh party congress' draft documents. On this basis, the party Central Committee focused on debating some issues on which differing views are still held.

Following the debate, the Political Bureau presented a draft conclusion and voted on each issue. The draft documents were then revised according to the views of the majority in the party Central Committee for presentation at the party congress. After the conclusion of the party Central Committee's 12th plenum, the documents to be presented at the party congress were completely revised and sent to every delegate, together with a report of the party Central Committee, so the delegates could study and prepare their own views. At the congress, the delegates will discuss and vote on these documents.

As for the personnel matters of the seventh party congress, the 12th plenum listened to a report on the preparatory process of the personnel subcommittee that had received more than 10,000 letters from cadres and party members for debating and unifying the views. The party congress will pay attention to the issues of quality and standardization. Party Central Committee members must have good qualities and ability to assume their jobs. Opportunistic, individualistic, sectarian, departmental, and corrupt elements will resolutely not be admitted into the party Central Committee.

After presenting some issues of the party congress, Comrade Tran Trong Tan answered newsmen's questions.

[Begin recording] [Tran Huu Tuyen] I, Tran Huu Tuyen, editor in chief of the NGHIEN CUU LY LUAN [Theoretical Research] journal, would like to ask whether or not this party congress has any motto or any name signifying the characteristics of the seventh party congress.

[Tran Trong Tan] I see that we used to call it a motto, but I would like to have some ideas concerning our seventh party congress. This party congress must typify wisdom first, renovation second, democracy third, discipline fourth, and solidarity fifth. This issue has been passed and announced in a communique broadcast on radio.

[Nguyen Ngoc Tuong] I, Nguyen Ngoc Tuong, acting editor in chief of TAP CHI QUAN HE KINH TE [Economic Relations Review], would like to ask, considering the strategic aspect, what the personnel structure of this party Central Committee Political Bureau will be?

[Tran Trong Tan] When discussing the personnel issue, the participants in the party Central Committee plenum said: In the personnel arrangement we must combine the three age groups, which means that while renovation is implemented, continuity must also be maintained. The structure of this party Central Committee has combined three such age groups. The 50-60 age group must be more numerous, the age group under 50 comes next, and the group above 60 is small. Such a structure is very particular. There are a few people above 70 to reflect a sense of loyalty aimed at securing firm continuity. The purpose of such a leading sense of orientation is to pass on the accumulated experiences continuously. [end recording]

At the news conference Comrade Tran Trong Tan also answered some other newsmen's questions about the seventh party congress.

Red Cross, Crescent Donates Rice

BK0806150191 Hanoi VNA in English 1420 GMT 8 Jun 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA June 8—The League of Red Cross and Red Crescent societies has granted 500 tons of rice as aid to Vietnamese people in the areas suffering from food shortage in the period betwen two rice crops this year.

The aid, which was delivered through the Vietnam Red Cross, has been sent to the people of Thuan Hai, Dac Lac, Gia Lai-Kon Tum, Lai Chau, Son La, Thanh Hoa, Nghe Tinh, Quang Binh and Quang Tri provinces.

Pham Van Dong Visits Thanh Hoa Province

BK1106112391 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 10 Jun 91

[Text] Comrade Pham Van Dong, adviser to the party Central Committee, recently paid a working visit to Thanh Hoa Province. The provincial leaders organized a meeting between the comrade adviser and representatives of the provincial party committee, people's committee, fatherland front, peasants association, women union and some sectors in the province.

During this meeting, Comrade Phan Van Dong cordially talked with the representatives. A number of cadres of various committees, sectors and mass organizations boldly expressed their thoughts and ideas, and the aspirations of the people in the province, and reported their achievements over the past few years and their prospects for the time ahead. At the same time, they also expressed their concern over the world situation and the country's present difficulties.

Comrade Pham Van Dong raised practical questions about the livelihood of the people in the province and the long-term guidelines and tasks of Thanh Hoa provincial party organization. He pointed out the importance and great potential of Thanh Hoa Province and the problems to be overcome promptly and mentioned the tasks of reorganizing and purifying the party, and of implementing Decision 240 of the Council of Ministers to fight corruption.

Comrade Le Huy Ngo, Secretary of Thanh Hoa provincial party committee, reported to Comrade Pham Van Dong, the guidelines and long-term and immediate tasks of Thanh Hoa province which include four actions against growing one crop, deterioration of the economy, suppressing and abusing democratic rights, and monopolizing leaders' views.

The provincial leaders pledged to implement Comrade Pham Van Dong's instructions.

Catholic Professor on Draft Political Report

BK1106153191 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 7 Jun 91

[Statement by Professor Pham Van Toan of the Vietnamese Catholics Solidarity Committee at a recent conference of the Vietnam Fatherland Front Central Committee; place and date not given—read by announcer]

[Summary] "Following the sixth party congress, the party has once again implemented democracy and openness by making public a political report to solicit the people's opinions before submitting it to the seventh party congress. In my opinion, instead of exposing domestic problems before outsiders, worse still, before foreign public opinion, people should take this opportunity to air their grievances, if any. This is because a failure to do so could damage the fatherland's interests and henceforth deserve blame."

I am not going to deal with the first part of the political report. Instead, I would like to express my opinion about some issues mentioned in the second part of the document as follows:

"First of all, I am very happy to know that according to the political report, morality and religions have many things in common with the task of building a new society based on socialism." Indeed, only three out of the Ten Commandments deal with man's love for God whereas the seven remaining ones concentrate on man's duty toward his fellow men. In other words, most of Christ's instructions focus on the need for his followers to constantly improve their relations with the world outside.

"In summary, we Catholics are very happy to know that the party has recognized the truth that morality and religions have many things in common with the task of building a new society. This means that the belief that Catholics are backward and reactionary elements unacceptable to the party only exists among a small number of people. The truth is, some individuals who are not Catholics but long-time party members now live in exile and are subjected to public condemnation because they have betrayed the nation. Meanwhile, others have a lack adequate knowledge because they do not want to learn. As a result, it is easy for them to be superficial and subjective in their judgement."

This is what I would like to say about the education of the young generation at present: Given the current socioeconomic situation, in some families, both parents are very busy working to make ends meet. Meanwhile, most of our children are part-time students. This means that they have more free time to participate in activities that may or may not be beneficial. Therefore, it could be a good idea to mobilize people who really care for the young generation to look after our level-1 students. Mass societies like the Vietnam Women's Union and the Catholics Solidarity Committee should join hands with the various district educational services in organizing group meetings for children to do their homework.

Professor Stresses Necessity of Party Platform

BK1106155391 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 8 Jun 91

["Advance to the Seventh Congress of the Communist Party of Vietnam" article by professor Tran Huu Tuyen, editor-in-chief of the NGHIEN CUU LY LUAN (Theoretical Studies) Review: "Formulating the Party Platform Is an Urgent, Essential Task at Present"]

[Summary from poor reception] During the recent first round party organization congresses at various levels in localities, most delegates contended that the party should announce its platform at the upcoming Seventh Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV] Congress. Many others, however, said that the platform is not necessary at present and that concrete measures are badly needed to help the country overcome the current socioeconomic crisis.

"To me, the formulation and announcement of the party platform at present is an urgent and necessary task. A party that leads the people in the revolution must formulate its platform and make public its objectives, intentions, and fundamental concepts guiding all tasks of the party. It should also assert the basic interests that the people must struggle to attain under the party leadership, the immediate and long-term objectives of the revolution, and strategies to implement the revolutionry cause."

It is necessary to mention here that the platform should serve as a basis for strengthening unity among the people and for mobilizing the masses to surge forward to fulfill all tasks assigned by history to the social progressive forces.

"I would like to stress that President Ho Chi Minh's declaration on Vietnam's independence and the 1930 political program are the first platform of the CPV. They are not only the platform for the democratic national revolution, but also the platform for guiding the revolutionary cause from the emergence of the party to the final victory of successfully building socialism in Vietnam. Besides the first platform, the party has also formulated additional platforms to guide tasks in various major stages of the revolution—the transition period to socialism, for instance, is the very important stage."

Socioeconomic crises experienced by many socialist countries including ours, made us realize that we cannot think and work in accordance with the old models, and that we must change our concepts especially the economic concept.

"The Sixth CPV Congress resolution has stressed this. After implementing this resolution for four years, though the country has not overcome the crisis, remarkable progress has been made in the national economy and an unprecedented democratic atmosphere has been attained."

These achievements testify to the correctness of the renovation cause. As a result, the Sixth CPV Congress will go into history as the congress of renovating thoughts and concepts. This is because it has set forth guidances for implementing the multicomponent commodity-based economy and the shifting to business accounting by enterprises, economic units, and other establishments.

"Many delegates contended that documents of the Sixth CPV Congress can be used as a basis for formulating the platform for the transition period. To me, however, these documents cannot be used as a platform for the said period. Moreover, experience reminds us that we should not use resolution of a congress as a platform for a long struggle of the revolution in which many party congresses will be held."

Our country is reaching a decisive stage. In the years ahead, we must not only do our best to overcome the socioeconomic crisis, but must also make ourselves prepared for the long-term development program. Only by taking the socialist path will we be able to lead our nation to overcome poverty and backwardness and to enhance its prestige in the international arena. We must also take appropriate forms and steps to bring the country's potentials and capabilities into full play. It is time for the party to have a comprehensive look to determine key objectives of socialism and to design suitable development programs in line with the unique conditions of our nation.

Against the background of the acute ideological struggle between socialism and its hostile forces, the party should set forth its concepts that can vigorously mobilize millions of people. As a result, the question does not rest with the necessity of having the platform, but rather rests with the nature of its contents and how far it can respond to the current requirements.

"To me, the platform must bear a principled characteristic. It must definitely assert major issues related to the fate and destiny of socialism, the fundamental interests of the people, the path toward socialism, the party leadership role, the people's right to mastery, and the shaping of socialist democracy. It should also assert issues recognized by the majority of the people and issues which have already tested through reality such as the implementation of the multicomponent commodity-based economy with state-run establishments playing the key role, the elimination of bureaucratic centralism and state subsidies, and so forth."

Government Establishes Gold, Silver Corporation

BK1206072691 Hanoi VNA in English 0634 GMT 12 Jun 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA June 12—The chairman of the Council of Ministers has decided to set up the Vietnam Gold, Silver and Gemstones Corporation.

The corporation, the merger of the Central Gold and Silver Company and state-run gold and silver companies under the management of the state bank at diffirent levels, will trade in and process gold, silver and gemstones.

The corporation will enter in joint ventures with economic organizations at home and abroad to process and analyze gold, silver an gemstones.

The corporation's headquarters is located in Hanoi and its representative offices and processing enterprises will be set up in various provinces and cities.

Agricultural Production Reported Nationwide

BK1306082391 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 11 Jun 91

[Text] According to the information center of the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry, by 5 June the northern provinces had harvested 955,570 hectares of fifth-month spring rice, representing nearly 90 percent of the cultivated area.

Along with harvesting fifth-month spring rice, these localities have stepped up the planting of summer-fall vegetables and subsidiary crops. Many of them are intensively planting corn and sweet potatoes to secure seeds in preparation for the expansion of the winter crop area.

The northern provinces have also sown 10th-month rice seedlings on nearly 30,000 hectares, and completed soil preparation on more than 200,000 hectares. The pace of soil preparation, however, is slower than the same period last year. In the days ahead, these localities should take advantage of the favorable conditions to accelerate the 10th-month crop production.

In the south, as of 5 June the Mekong River delta provinces had planted summer-fall rice on 834,140 hectares. This represents more than 91 percent of the planned area and shows an increase of more than 10 percent over the same period last year. Summer-fall rice has developed satisfactorily and has grown ears or been harvested in certain localities.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry urges the northern localities to quickly harvest fifth-month spring rice while preparing sufficient seeds for sowing 10th-month rice seedlings and stepping up soil preparation for planting 10th-month rice in accordance with its planned allocation. It also urges those in the south to complete the cultivation of summer-fall rice as planned while preventing and controlling insects and diseases, and carrying out preparation for the 10th-month crop cultivation season.

Feature on Environmental Conditions in Hanoi

BK0906074091 Hanoi VNA in English 0638 GMT 9 Jun 91

["Sunday Feature: Environment Protection in Hanoi"—VNA headline]

[Text] Hanoi VNA June 9—Urgent problems and a long-term plan for environment protection of the Hanoi capital were discussed at a seminar jointly organized here June 4 by the Hanoi Association for Protection of Natural Resources and Environment, the Union of Scientific and Technological Association and the Hanoi Environment

Committee with UNDP's [United Nations Development Programme] financial assistance.

Reports at the seminar noted that the population growth in Hanoi over the past three decades has rendered environment protection very imperative (the population of the inner city of Hanoi has swollen to 940,000 compared to 150,000 in 1954).

Generally speaking, not enough attention has been paid to sanitation and drainage during the planning and construction of new residential quarters.

Many new roads have caused local submersions due to the lack of evacuation sewers. Six hundred ponds and lakes have been filled, adding to the submersion. Annual budget for the dredging of mud from the four rivers in the capital was barely sufficient to do half of the job.

Besides, the unplanned building of new houses by the people has aggravated the drainage and sanitation problems. Twenty four hospitals and 245 factories and enterprises have no processing systems for waste and waste water (accept the Olof Palme Institute for Children Healthcare).

Due to the shortage of funds and means, each day the sanitation service can collect only 42.9 percent of the garbage and 21 percent of nightsoil. At present, the United Nations is deploying project VIE/86/023 to build a factory for processing 30,000 cubic metres of garbage per year.

In the outlying districts, the cutting of trees for fuelwood has shown no sign of relenting.

Eighty percent of the natural forests around Hanoi has become denuded to one extent or another. This has led to serve erosion and the filling up of river and lake beds. Tens of thousand of hectares of hilly land remain barren.

The official ban on the hunting of birds and beasts for food is not strictly observed.

The participants in the seminar proposed a number of concrete measures aimed at building a programme of coordinated actions by various branches for environment conservation.

The seminar proposed to launch a citywide movement to increase the people's awareness of environmental problems through the mass media and to include the movement in the curriculum of the general schools.

At the seminar, Mrs. Marlene Spezsti, representative of UNDP, pledged her organization's biggest effort to help Hanoi in environment protection.

Vo Van Kiet Attends Family Planning Conference

BK0906050091 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 6 Jun 91

[Text] The Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union [HCMCYU] Central Committee held a conference recently to review its tasks on population and family planning. Comrade Vo Van Kiet, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and chairman of the Committee for National Population and Family Planning, attended and addressed the conference.

As of April this year, 34 of the 49 provinces and municipalities reported that more than 92 percent of districts and cities—comprising 3,360 villages—have participated in the campaign for population and family planning. Almost 1,200 working teams with more than 10,500 youths have been formed to carry out this campaign. They have held 18,000 meetings for more than 1.5 million youth to urge them to adopt new concepts including efforts to actively participate in socioeconomic building and in improving the people's daily life.

Addressing the conference, Comrade Vo Van Kiet said: Young married couples now account for almost 12 million or 70 percent of the families that produce babies annually. As a result, if efforts are made to motivate these young people to strictly observe the family planning program to achieve the one or two children family model, then the campaign will meet with fine success.

Comrade Vo Van Kiet also asserted the youth's great role in motivating the people to participate in the population and family planning program. He expressed the hope that the conference will contribute to significant progress in implementing the renovation cause for the future of the younger generation and for the socioeconomic development of our nation.

Lectures Given on Population, Family Planning

BK1006152191 Hanoi VNA in English 1419 GMT 8 Jun 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA June 8—Half of the 20 million members of the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union have attended lectures on family planning and hundreds of them have signed up to observe birth control according to a report at a review conference held by the union here from June 4 to June 6.

The report said that one of the most pmndible results of the campaign for family planning launched in April 1988 by the Central Committee of the youth union was the rise of the marriage age from 18 to 21.5 among the young women and from 19.5 to 23 among the young men.

The campaign also calls for the universalisation of the one or two-child family model in the whole country.

It has been instrumental in the reduction of the population growth rate from 2.3 percent in 1988 to 2.1 percent in 1990.

Vu Oanh Article on Youth Mobilization

BK1306092391 Hanoi TAP CHI CONG SAN in Vietnamese Apr 91 pp 2-5

[Article by Vu Oanh, Secretary of the CPV [Communist Party of Vietnam] Central Committee: "Youth Mobilization Work in the New Situation"]

[Text] 1. Youths are the force that will determine the future of the nation, the great and powerful force of the revolution and for the renovation. As a result, the mobilization of youths for training and moulding has always been a strategic task of our party.

Given the current situation and the new revolutionary task as well as the rapid development of the present younger generation in all aspects, if the party wants to attain good results in youth mobilization work, it must comprehensively change the concept, content, form, and method of training and moulding youths. In this regard, we should firmly grasp the following concepts:

—We must definitely assert that youths play a very important role in the revolutionary cause led by the party. The future of the fatherland and our system depends on today's youths, teenagers, and children. Youths are the motivating force of society, the assault force of the revolution, masters of creativity, and the decisive force of the renovation. For this reason, our party, state, and people must realize their responsibility toward youths and teenagers. We must organize, educate, and train them as well as bring their great potential and dynamism into full play. We must charge them with the duty of continuing the revolutionary cause of our party and people.

—Presently, the aspiration of youths develop in many forms and is influenced in various directions. As a result, we must apply various methods to motivate and mobilize them. We must strengthen their unity for the objective of building a strong, prosperous nation and for the concrete interest of youths themselves. In addition to the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union [HCMCYU], we should set up other youth associations according to their work and professions. We should enhance the quality of the HCMCYU so that it is worthy of being the trusted reserve force of the party, the political nucleus of the youth movement, and the authentic representative of all youths.

—Youth mobilization work is an urgent and long-term task of the party, state, and people. The party sets orientation for youths, the state formulates policy and mechanism for implementation, and politico-social organizations and families train and educate them. We must design a unified method for coordinated action in our political system to mould and train youths to be good citizens and competent workers who love the country and socialisnm. While launching the youth revolutionary action movement, we must pay attention to their aspirations, especially their legitimate material, spiritual, and progressive requirements. We must also protect their interests, guide them and help them fulfill their aspiration themselves. This is one way of creating a motivating force for developing the youth movement, thereby helping them to maintain the quality of sacrifice and to mature.

2. The general purposes of the current youth mobilization plan are to ensure adequately the healthy development of young people and to bring into full play all their potential for building and defending the socialist Vietnam homeland. Proceeding from the establishment of an economic, political, healthy, and democratic social environment, we will foster and form young people into patriots who love labor and socialism; who are generous and kind, and have a public sense of responsibility with a degree of educational and professional knowledge; who are employed and healthy, and courageously struggle against poverty and backwardness; who oppose corruption and injustice in society, enthusiastically working for the prosperity and power of the country and people; and who are loyal to the homeland and ready to fight and smash all enemy plots of subversion.

In the immediate future, the following problems are expected to be settled satisfactorily:

—The creation of jobs for young people is at present a pressing issue of prime importance. Jobs are the primary aspiration of young people, giving them many benefits; they are also a base for dealing with other issues. Jobs bring stability, develop the youth movement, and make youth education highly effective. The entire society should work and care for young people. The state, economic, and social organizations, and every family should help young people find jobs. The problem of employment for young people can be resolved by: encouraging all economic sectors to expand production and service, stimulating the development of the family-based economy in urban and rural areas, and expanding the number of both new and traditional jobs and trades. Industrial and communications projects, the covering of bare hills with greenery, and planting industrially-useful crops must be made truly attractive to young people. We should encourage economic organizations for youth, pay attention to the development and encouragement of young people's work-units to go to the central and mountainous regions, establish new populous centers, and develop the export of labor in different ways. The Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union should propose to the state and economic organizations various guidelines, policies, and measures which are directly related to the work and livelihood of young people. It should help young people find jobs and positively protect the legitimate interests of young people with respect to the work they do and where they are located.

—The younger generation should be well-educated, well-trained, and encouraged to become modern, fully developed people. The goals of the present youth education plan are: to turn young people into good citizens and workers who know how to control themselves, and love their country, the government, the nation, and the people; to live and work in accordance with the law; and to struggle boldly against unethical, irresponsible behavior. On this basis, we will train young people, especially progressive ones and youth union members, to understand the ideals of national independence and socialism, and to have both a world view and a scientific philosophy of life. This will enable them to correctly perceive the nature of each society, and to distinguish between genuine and false democracy so that they can persist in following the socialist path chosen by our party, Uncle Ho, and the people.

To educate youth culturally, technologically, and professionally, and to increase their physical strength, is the key task in training and forming the younger generation as a whole. Young people should not be left illiterate, uneducated, and jobless. They must be given general cultural education and professional skills according to the demands and characteristics of each political and economic region. There should be many policies, methods, measures, and programs to raise the intellectual levels of young people. We should emphasize the educational need for work to be combined with training, and for schools to cooperate closely both with individual families and the general community, as well as with production and business.

Moreover, we must ensure good health for young people and take measures to stop the spread of social diseases among them. We must gradually build material bases which include sports, public health, cultural, and art centers to meet the requirements for the fully comprehensive development of young people. We must promote physical education training and sports to help national-defense sports, set up more sports clubs, and motivate young people to participate in sports and physical education activities. We must set up rules to encourage each community to build a playground and a cultural center equipped with sports, artistic, and entertainment facilities for the young that emphasize the joint working roles of the state and the people. We must also strive to promote cultural and sport activities for the masses.

Vocational training for the young is an urgent and long-term task in building a prosperous country. While attaching importance to vocational training at general schools, we must strive to expand vocationl education to localities throughout the country. It is imperative to send our youth to further their studies aboard, especially in the business and marketing fields. This is aimed at making them prepared to effectively work in the commodity-based economic system which will develop socialism in the days ahead.

We must encourage families to motivate their children to engage in vocational training. We should formulate policies on reducing and exempting fees for vocational training at state and collective establishments, while inviting foreign countries to invest in vocational training programs for the young. We should set up centers for job information and employment in various localities. We should review and improve our tasks in the training, deployment, and treatment of young, capable workers. We must vigorously develop training courses, especially in the field of science. We must radically change the curriculum for university and post-graduate courses, while striving to overcome all obstacles to our young, competent students' studies and scientific research. We should encourage gifted, dedicated scientists and give them special treatment.

We must provide national defense education for the young and formulate a concrete policy to help them satisfactorily fulfill their obligations toward military service and the defense of the fatherland. We must improve schemes related to troop recruitment and training, and the deployment of young officers. Young people from ethnic minorities and religious groups should be trained and guided properly and in good time.

3. It is necessary to say that the training and molding of the younger generation is the duty of the whole society. The training should be carried out not only at schools, agencies, and places of work, but also in their daily lives. While applying a strict training program, we should also encourage the young to educate themselves. We should not impose a hard, coercive policy on them, but encourage and develop them through training. We should also promote and improve both the spiritual and material life of young people.

Organizing and motivating the movement for revolutionary action among young people is one of the major tasks in the youth mobilization program. Young people normally want to do constructive work both for the nation and for themselves. As a result, we should promote their activities and encourage them to participate in effectively implementing our nation's strategy of socioeconomic development. We should direct the youth revolutionary action movement to help to accelerate production, improve business, and promote scientific-technological innovations, thereby contributing to overcoming difficulties and triumphantly implementing the three economic programs set forth by the party and state. We must satisfactorily organize these movements: the movement to achieve Uncle Ho's soldier rank among young people in the Army; the movement to implement Uncle Ho's six teachings among young people in the police force; the movement to maintain political security and social order and safety, and to oppose crime, smuggling, and corruption in society; and the movement to oppose social vices among young people and teenagers. We should also motivate young people to actively participate in the movement to build a new cultural lifestyle, to enhance their knowledge through study, to implement the population and family planning program, to protect the environment, and to engage in socially beneficial activities.

We must build a firm and strong Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union and expand the front to rally and unite youths. The party should directly care for the building of the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union, considering doing so to be building the party one step beforehand. The union organization should be renovated and consolidated in the direction of truly emphasizing quality. A campaign should be conducted to enhance the quality of union members and organizations, especially union chapters. The union organization must be consolidated in accordance with the guideline for intensifying the party organization leadership along with promoting the initiative of union organizations.

A contingent of union cadres must be built. Cadres must have good professional and occupational skills, good knowledge of the union tasks, good behavior toward the masses, and attractiveness to youths. The union cadres should be given favorable conditions to operate and be satisfactorily remunerated. They should not be casually assigned.

The machinery of union organizations should be streamlined for compactness and effective operation. Their operational behavior should be renovated for more rapid and accurate information on and realistic awareness of the youth movement. The key tasks must be firmly grasped and each problem must be dealt with in a specific, timely, and practical manner. The machinery of unions at higher levels must be shifted rapidly to functions such as researching, controlling, summarizing, proposing, and orienting the formation of models for building youth organizations and movements for revolutionary acts.

We should develop the various forms of rallying youths by their professions and likes and operational requirements. The Vietnam Youth Association must be consolidated and developed into a broad front for youths of all strata. The Vietnamese student associations in various universities and higher schools must be developed to help care for and protect the legitimate interests of students and youths.

The party and state should promptly formulate policies to train, encourage, and rationally employ the contingents of cadres of the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union and the Vietnam Youth Association. Cadres must be selected democratically. Employment of part-time cadres must be expanded and policies to satisfatorily remunerate them must be established.

The material bases and operating funds must be increased for unions to fulfill their functions well. Certain percentages of budgets must be earmarked for unions' operations and youth education. Besides budgetary funds and contributions from union and association members, fundraising by youth unions should be expanded through various economic activities conforming with the law.

The youth motivation tasks of the party, state, and social organizations must be intensified. The party's fundamental viewpoints on youth tasks in the new situation should be understood thoroughly. Scientific research should be conducted to grasp necessary information and data on the youth movement, which serves as a base for formulating guidelines and policies toward youth. Party committee echelons should periodically work with youth union committees to orient the activities of youth unions and appoint young party members to perform youth tasks, and get in touch with and conduct dialogues and seminars with youth. The party and youth union must be purified. Cadres and party members must uphold their revolutionary qualities and set examples for the youth.

The state should institutionalize the strategy of young generations and promulgate policies to care for and employ youths, policies on youth duties and benefits, the labor code, the youth law.... It should raise the level of knowledge for youths, help resolve their pressing problems, and create conditions for them to have their representatives in state agencies.

The youth motivation task is part and parcel of the strategy of young generations and the socioeconomic strategy. It must be concretized by programs of action and policies of every echelon and sector. Study must be made to promptly establish a state agency specializing in the performance of youth tasks.

The responsibility of mass and social organizations for assisting, uniting, and educating young generations must be intensified. Mass and social organizations, together with youth unions, should exchange with each other their experiences and should seek methods of coordination with each other through various forms of seminars, joint conferences, and bilateral meetings.

Australia

Hawke Planning 'Goodwill' Trip Despite Trouble

BK1306101891 Hong Kong AFP in English 0957 GMT 13 Jun 91

[Text] Sydney, June 13 (AFP)—Australia's Prime Minister Bob Hawke said Thursday he still wants to visit South Africa later this year despite controversy now raging in the two countries over Foreign Minister Gareth Evans's troubled visit.

Mr. Evans, who has been criticised by South African black leaders as well as whites, is in South Africa on a "goodwill" tour which Shadow Foreign Minister Robert Hill described Thursday as an "unmitigated diplomatic disaster."

Australia's deputy opposition leader Tim Fischer said Mr. Evans had stomped around South Africa "like an arrogant, petulant schoolboy" who had preconceived notions about South Africa.

Mr. Hill said Mr. Evans had managed to get off side with the South African Government, Black groups, the South African media, and police and security officers.

Mr. Evans, known in Australia as a capable and articulate minister with a bad temper and sometimes foul mouth, is reported to have lost his temper with police escorting him in a 12-car convoy to black townships.

However, some reports reaching here have indicated support for his view that the police escort was excessive and intimidating to black communities.

He is also said to have sworn at one of his security guards, and snapped at a radio interviewer.

On Thursday he clashed with Zulu Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi during a televised media conference screened here.

Chief Buthelezi, who heads the Inkatha Freedom Party, accused Australia of running a one-sided policy of support for Inkatha's major rival the African National Congress (ANC).

Australia has announced a grant of two million dollars (1.5 million U.S.) to the ANC.

Australia's support for the ANC has also angered the hardline Pan Africanist Congress (PAC) whose leaders refused this week to meet Mr. Evans.

South Africa's business day claimed the diplomatic incidents were likely to end any hopes of Mr. Hawke visiting South Africa later this year as he had planned to do before the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in Harare in October.

Mr. Hawke defended Australia's support for black liberation groups as cross-partisan. He admittted Australia emphasised the ANC, but said this just mirrored what South African President Frederik de Klerk was also doing.

"This does not imply that we do not recognize the existence of other forces in the area," Mr. Hawke said.

Mr. Hawke said of the two million dollars given to South Africa to aid anti-apartheid reforms, only a very small amount would go to the ANC.

The rest would be used to create opportunities, such as scholarships, for black South Africans of any party.

The people associated with Chief Buthelezi and Inkatha would have the opportunity of benefiting from the money being made available, he said.

"This will not be exclusively directed towards ANC members."

Mr. Hawke said he was hoping to visit South Africa this year but that would depend on the progress of reform there.

"Certainly having, as we have done, taken the lead within the Commonwealth in pressing for change in South Africa, we want to be there at the forefront of trying to ensure a smooth transition.

"If by going there and being positive and helpful in that respect then I would do it."

Mr. Evans told AUSTRALIAN ASSOCIATED PRESS in Johannesburg Thursday that the trip had not been without "a few bumps", but this was entirely expected given the nature of bilateral relations.

"The fact is that in the past Australia has had very strong views on South Africa's internal affairs."

But he said there had been a handful of incidents which had been "stirred" throughout the trip.

He blamed "Aussie bashing" which he said had been a way of life in South Africa.

Fiji

Prime Minister Not To Run in Next Elections

BK1306105891 Hong Kong AFP in English 1051 GMT 13 Jun 91

[Text] Suva, June 13 (AFP)—As uproar over demands for his government's resignation died down, Prime Minister Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara announced here Thursday that he would not contest the parliamentary elections promised next year. But some Indian opposition leaders said they doubted if he was serious, while one said it was more likely he had his eye on the next presidency.

Ratu Mara told about 500 delegates at a National Tourism Convention that he had no intention of standing for future parliament.

In what most observers took to be a reference to demands by his Army Commander Major General Sitiveni Rabuka for the government's resignation, Ratu Mara said: "I am sure you understand why."

The general secretary of the Indian-dominated National Federation Party [NFP]-Fiji Labor Party Navin Maharaj said: "We've heard it many times before.

"But the catch is we don't know whether he means it this time or whether he will change his mind like he has done before."

Balwant Rakka, a renowned Indian religious leader and president of the NFP, said Ratu Mara has been "singing the same tune for a long time."

"I've been hearing this even before the coups. I think he's waiting to take over the presidency (when current incumbent Ratu Sir Penaia Ganilau retires).

"But I would think he would want to hold on to power for as long as he can."

Major General Rabuka, who led the 1987 coups which overthrew the country's first Indian-dominated administration before handing over power to the interim government, later withdrew his remark and apologised.

In a statement defending its record since taking power from the army in 1987, Ratu Mara rejected Maj. Gen. Rabuka's criticism that the government had incurred many failures, was unpopular, and should resign.

Vanuatu

Prime Minister Leaves for Melanesian Group Talks

BK1306062291 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0500 GMT 13 Jun 91

[Text] Vanuatu's prime minister, Father Walter Lini, has flown to the country's largest island, Espiritu Santos, for a meeting of the Melanesian Spearhead Group dispelling doubts that he might not attend because of uncertain health.

Father Lini returned to Vanuatu on Wednesday [12 June] from Australia where he had been undergoing treatment for a heart attack he suffered last month. A specialist treating him in Sydney told Radio Australia he had made an excellent recovery.

The two-day Melanesian Spearhead Group meeting opens tomorrow in Bougainville. Also attending will be delegations from Papua New Guinea and Solomon Islands who arrived on the island today.

The Papua New Guinea delegation is led by the prime minister, Rabbie Namaliu, and the Solomon Islands delegation by the deputy prime minister, Sir Baddeley Devesi.

Western Samoa

Supreme Court Nullifies Election Result

BK1306070291 Hong Kong AFP in English 0633 GMT 13 Jun 91

[Text] Apia, June 12 (AFP)—Western Samoa's Supreme Court Wednesday overturned the result of an election which saw the country's opposition leader and former Prime Minister Tupua Tamasese Efi lose his seat in April.

Justice Glendyn Carter said he was concerned at evidence of bribery and treating, as well as undue influence, in the Anoama'a Sasae constituency.

Tupua Tamasese's loss of the seat to ruling Human Rights Protection Party candidate Moanamu Salale was a sensation in April's general elections.

Tupua Tamasese, who was contesting the seat as "tuiatua" or "king of the Atua District", holds one of Samoa's four royal titles and his defeat at the hands of a retired postal supervisor was unexpected.

The elections were the first held under universal suffrage, instead of just matai, or village chiefs and orators, being able to vote.

A court order was made Wednesday, with the consent of counsel from both parties, that overturned the result. A separate application to have Tupua Tamasese declared the holder of the seat was rejected and a by-election ordered.

Election petitions were filed against a total of 11 elected MPs and hearings for two have been completed. One of the remaining petitions has been withdrawn, while two other petitioners have filed intentions to withdraw.

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